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PRODUCTION 1949 GOALS



HANDBOOK

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

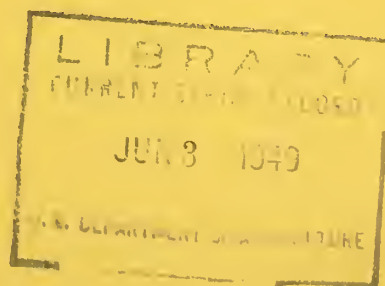


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This Handbook is a compilation of the 1949 goal commodity statements which were prepared by Commodity Goal Committees and approved by the Secretary after review by the Policy and Program Committee and its Sub-committee, the Production Goals Coordinating Committee. These statements were sent to State USDA Councils during the period July 1948 through February 1949.

The tables showing state goals and comparative data have been revised to include the final goals as announced March 31, 1949, after review and recommendation by State USDA Councils. The latest data as released by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been inserted in the tables for certain commodities to replace the preliminary figures which were available when the reports were prepared. For commodities in which there were rather substantial revisions made between 1948 preliminary and final figures, the revised data were not inserted in order to show the situation at the time the statements were prepared.

April, 1949

CROP GOALS: 1949 Acreage with Comparisons

Commodity	Planted Acreage				% Acreage Goal is of:		
	1949	1/1948	1937-41	1942-46	1/1948	1937-41	1942-46
	Goal	Actual	Average	Average	Actual	Average	Average
	- - T h o u s a n d s - -				- P e r c e n t -		
Food Grains and Pulses:							
Wheat	71,850	77,749	69,425	63,168	92	103	114
Rye 2/	2,478	2,097	3,702	2,408	118	67	103
Rice	1,600	1,757	1,118	1,521	91	143	105
Dry edible beans	1,800	1,971	1,975	2,042	91	91	88
Dry edible peas	350	309	286	633	113	122	55
Dry smooth peas	225	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feed Grains & Forage:							
Corn	85,900	86,196	91,763	91,630	100	94	94
Oats	44,750	44,529	39,715	44,545	100	113	100
Barley	13,500	13,295	14,315	14,948	102	94	90
All sorghum, ex. sirup	13,704	13,703	17,095	16,395	100	80	84
Sorghums for grain 2/	7,020	7,298	5,353	7,089	96	131	99
Oil and Fiber Crops:							
Soybeans for beans 2/	10,273	10,311	4,126	10,198	100	249	101
Flaxseed, all	3,022	4,889	2,305	4,072	62	131	74
Cotton	21,894	23,372	26,358	20,189	94	83	108
Vegetables:							
Potatoes, all Irish	1,938	2,127	2,913	2,881	91	67	67
Commercial	1,223	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sweetpotatoes	607	519	737	730	117	82	83
Truck crops:							
(21) Fresh mkt. 2/ 3/	1,743	1,744	1,641	1,741	100	106	100
(9) Processing	1,701	1,721	2,041	1,421	99	83	120
Hay and Seed Crops: 2/							
All tame hay 4/	62,032	58,669	58,046	62,056	106	107	100
Cover crop seeds 5/	546	372	209	399	147	261	137
Grass & Legume seeds 6/	6,655	4,181	4,397	5,057	159	151	132

- 1/ The percentage difference in the summary table and the commodity statements is due to the use of current data in the summary table and the use of the latest available data at the time the commodity statements were prepared.
- 2/ Harvested.
- 3/ Includes some for dehydration and processing.
- 4/ The historic data are the differences between the estimates for "All Hay" and "Wild Hay".
- 5/ Includes Austrian winter peas, crimson clover, hairy vetch, common and willamette vetch, common ryegrass, and blue lupine since 1943.
- 6/ Includes Alfalfa, red, alsike, ladino, sweet and white clover; lespedeza; timothy; sudan; orchard grass; redtop; bromegrass since 1942; and crested wheatgrass since 1939.

Goal data compiled from commodity goal statements; comparison data from BAE Crop Reports and records.

CROP GOALS: 1949 Production with Comparisons

Commodity	:	:	Production				% 1949 Goal is of:			
			Unit:	1949	: 1/1948	: 1937-41	: 1942-46	: 1/1948	: 1937-41	: 1942-46
			:	Goal	: Actual	: Average	: Average	: Actual	: Average	: Average
			- - - T h o u s a n d s - - -				- P e r c e n t -			
<u>Food Grains and Pulses:</u>										
Wheat	Bu.	1,076,701	1,288,406	858,331	1,026,915	84	125	105		
Rye	do	29,785	26,388	45,402	29,393	113	66	101		
Rice	do	73,888	81,170	53,149	67,771	91	139	109		
Dry edible beans(uncl.)	Cwt.	15,319	20,833	16,416	17,016	74	93	90		
Dry edible peas (uncl.)	Cwt.	2,710	3,584	2,582	7,974	76	105	34		
<u>Feed Grains and Forage:</u>										
Corn	Bu.	2,973,149	3,650,548	2,576,350	3,050,707	81	115	97		
Oats	do	1,372,855	1,491,752	1,130,558	1,333,070	92	121	103		
Barley	do	304,000	317,037	286,110	311,513	96	106	98		
Sorghums for grain	do	116,180	131,644	77,961	121,621	88	149	96		
<u>Oil and Fiber Crops:</u>										
Soybeans for beans	do	193,262	220,201	76,691	192,593	83	252	100		
Flaxseed, all	do	26,657	52,533	19,553	33,958	51	136	78		
Cotton	R.B.	12,081	2/ 14,540	12,830	10,547	83	94	115		
<u>Vegetables:</u>										
Potatoes	Bu.	350,000	445,850	361,457	422,830	79	97	83		
Sweetpotatoes	do	56,773	49,806	62,541	67,190	114	91	84		
<u>Truck crops:</u>										
(21) Fresh mkt. 3/	Tons	7,807	8,236	6,499	7,707	95	120	101		
(9) Processing	do	4,730	5,348	3,916	5,527	88	121	86		
<u>Hay and Seed Crops:</u>										
All tame hay 4/	Tons	86,445	86,998	80,538	91,714	98	107	94		
Cover Crop Seeds(cln.) 5/	Lb.	263,850	142,720	84,943	205,722	185	311	128		
<u>Grass and Legume</u>										
Seed (cln.) 6/	Lb.	589,765	439,339	470,443	483,962	134	125	122		

1/ 3/ 4/ 5/ 6/ See respective footnotes page 1.

2/ Preliminary.

LIVESTOCK GOALS: 1949 Livestock Numbers and Production, with Comparisons

Livestock & Livestock Products	: 1949	: 1/1948	: 1937-41	: 1942-46	% 1949 Goal is of:		
	: Goal	: Actual	: Average	: Average	: 1/1948	: 1937-41	: 1942-46
	:	:	:	:	: Actual	: Average	: Average
	- -	T h o u s a n d s	2/	- -	- P e r c e n t -		
Milk produced on farms	120,000	3/115,511	107,855	119,176	104	111	101
Hens & Pullets on farms Jan. 1	425,000	426,465	376,566	477,714	100	113	89
Chickens raised on farms	700,000	637,372	665,430	867,665	110	105	81
Turkeys raised on farms	35,100	31,950	30,636	37,135	110	115	95
Sows to farrow, spring	9,490	7,967	7,534	9,502	119	126	100
Sows to farrow, fall	3/5,270	5,169	4,802	5,885	102	110	90
Cattle and calf slaughter	4/32,000	4/34,522	24,643	31,390	93	130	102
Beef cows on farms Jan. 1	5/	16,000	10,569	14,971	-	-	-
Stock Sheep and Lambs on farms end of year	30,500	27,818	46,698	39,960	110	65	76

1/ See respective footnote page 1.

2/ Milk production in million pounds.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Marketing years 1946-49 and 1947-48.

5/ Not less than 15.5 million January 1, 1949.

Goal data compiled from commodity goal statements; comparison data from BAE Crop, Livestock, and Poultry reports and records.

WHEAT

Requirements and Market Outlook: There has been a marked increase in wheat acreage in recent years in response to war and relief needs. In many areas, the increase represents a departure from the best land use. There has been a considerable sacrifice of good crop rotations, including summer fallow, and in some instances the breaking of sod lands best suited for grass over a period of years. In view of the increased carryover on July 1, 1948, the near-record production in 1948, and the marked improvement in crop prospects in many importing countries, it is possible to meet domestic and foreign requirements and still effect a considerable reduction in wheat acreage in 1949. While it is desirable to build up reserves for any possible future emergency, we should begin to make some of the adjustments in our wheat acreage which are necessary for the best use of our soil resources. Adjustments can be made in areas of low productivity without materially affecting total production. A better balance between soil-conserving and soil-depleting crops will actually assure higher productivity over a long period of years. Provision should be made for sufficient summer fallow to continue wheat production in succeeding years. In marginal areas, farmers should be encouraged to begin reseeding land to grass which is not suited for crop production over a long period of years.

The goal for 1949 of 71.8 million acres would be approximately 3.3 million acres less than the 1948 goal and about 5.9 million less than the 1948 acreage. State councils have reviewed the goal for their State from the standpoint of wheat requirements in 1949 compared with 1948, the need for other crops, and the attainment of better land use. With an average yield of approximately 15 bushels per acre (the 1938-47 average) on the goal acreage, production in 1949 would total 1,077 million bushels. However, if yields should be higher than the average of the past ten years, the additional wheat produced on the goal acreage would be available principally for exports and carryover. In the following table, the assumed utilization of wheat based on a production of 1,077 million bushels, is shown in comparison with previous years:

	<u>1947-48</u> <u>Indicated</u>	<u>1948-49</u> <u>Intended</u> (million bushels)	<u>1949-50</u> <u>Assumed</u>
<u>Food Uses</u>			
Food <u>1/</u>	495	502	510
<u>Feed and other non-food uses</u>			
Feed	200	175	150
Seed and Industrial	92	90	90
Total	<u>292</u>	<u>265</u>	<u>240</u>
<u>Exports</u>	482	450	325
<u>Total Uses</u>	1,269	1,217	1,075
<u>Stocks</u>			
Beginning of year	84	180	205
End of year	180	205	207
Net Change	<u>96</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Imports</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
<u>Requirements from 1949 production</u>			1,077
<u>Acres seeded or required (Mil.)</u>	77.9	77.7	<u>3/</u> 71.8

1/ Includes about 4 million bushels of shipments to Territories as food.

2/ Negligible. 3/ Excluding volunteer acreage.

As shown in the table above, requirements for food in 1949-50 are expected to be slightly higher than during the current marketing year. Seed requirements should

be quite constant and, without controls in effect, the needs of industry should be about the same, but the demand for food should be smaller.

With the 1948 crop the second largest in our history, there should be a considerable increase in wheat stocks during 1948-49, and approximately the same level of carryover on July 1, 1950. However, if the Canadian crop should fall below average expectations, there would be an increase in export demand for United States wheat and the carryover at the end of the present marketing year would be proportionately reduced.

So far as can be foreseen at this time, total exports of around 325 million bushels appear likely in 1949-50. Exports in 1947-48 were record breaking primarily because of lack of recovery in war-devastated countries, near crop failure in Europe, and below-normal production in Canada and Argentina, two of the principal exporting countries. Export demand, while less than during the past year, should continue strong in 1948-49. The European crop will be much better this year, but it will not be available for consumption until about September. Also, there is still a strong demand for wheat in Asia, and availability of grain in other exporting countries will probably be no larger, if as large, as in 1947-48. It is assumed that in 1949-50 there will be further recovery in agricultural output in Europe and Asia and more normal production in other exporting countries, and that about 75 million bushels will be exported from the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe chiefly to ERP countries. However, in the event these assumptions are not fully realized, our exports could be increased by a reduction in stocks. The International Wheat Council recently announced that the proposed International Wheat Agreement will not be put into effect. Without an agreement of this kind, there will be competition among exporting nations to tie up the principal markets through bilateral long-term contracts and a tendency for some of the nations of Europe to drive for self-sufficiency behind tariff walls as they did after World War I. When there is again a world surplus supply of wheat, conditions of this kind would greatly limit the export market for U. S. wheat and intensify the problem of adjusting production downward from the high level of recent years.

Production Goal: The goal for 1949 is 71.8 million acres. This acreage is larger than the prewar average, but less than the acreage for 1948. State goals are shown in the attached table.

Labor and Production Supplies: Adequate labor should be available for producing the 1949 crop. While the high level of industrial production will tend to draw labor from the farms, combines and other labor-saving machinery will be available in greater quantities than in past years. Fertilizer supplies will be increased and other supplies should be adequate.

Market Facilities: Marketing facilities are reasonably adequate for handling the assumed production from the goal acreage for 1949.

Support Prices: Prices for wheat harvested in 1948 and 1949 will be supported at 90 percent of parity as required by law.

WHEAT: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage (Planted)			% Acreage Goal is of:		
	Production	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
	(Bushels)	(Planted)	Average: Average:			Average: Average:		
			Thousands			Percent		
N. Y.	9,480	400:	463	314	296:	86	127	135
N. J.	1,785	105:	105	73	76:	100	144	138
Pa.	19,095	950:	985	971	884:	96	98	107
Ohio	46,870	2,150:	2,377	2,180	1,848:	90	99	116
Ind.	28,830	1,550:	1,828	1,741	1,294:	85	89	120
Ill.	27,125	1,550:	1,702	2,137	1,281:	91	73	121
Mich.	26,220	1,150:	1,416	855	840:	81	135	137
Wis.	2,412	125:	127	105	75:	98	119	167
Minn.	19,205	1,150:	1,096	1,899	1,233:	105	61	93
Iowa	3,400	200:	335	524	169:	60	38	118
Mo.	23,940	1,800:	1,914	2,390	1,255:	94	75	143
N. Dak.	130,900	9,350:	9,676	8,740	9,331:	97	107	100
S. Dak.	42,375	3,750:	4,040	3,318	3,250:	93	113	115
Nebr.	64,370	4,100:	4,499	4,218	3,507:	91	97	117
Kans.	182,250	13,500:	14,634	14,641	12,593:	92	92	107
Del.	1,302	70:	73	75	67:	96	93	104
Md.	7,667	410:	415	412	362:	99	100	113
Va.	7,450	500:	523	594	500:	96	84	100
W. Va.	1,400	100:	102	152	102:	98	66	98
N. C.	6,555	475:	427	497	493:	111	96	96
S. C.	3,602	275:	253	201	239:	109	137	115
Ga.	2,886	260:	239	184	212:	109	141	123
Ky.	5,445	450:	420	517	441:	107	87	102
Tenn.	4,960	400:	389	448	359:	103	89	111
Ala.	174	15:	12	7	20:	125	214	75
Miss.	370	20:	18	6	18:	111	333	111
Ark.	364	45:	43	73	46:	105	62	98
Okla.	82,350	6,750:	7,332	5,315	5,356:	92	127	126
Texas	66,300	6,500:	6,752	4,683	5,131:	96	139	127
Mont.	67,760	4,400:	5,053	4,229	4,120:	87	104	107
Idaho	34,060	1,300:	1,467	1,132	1,083:	89	115	120
Wyo.	4,530	300:	363	276	268:	83	109	112
Colo.	35,325	2,250:	2,829	1,530	1,678:	80	147	134
N. Mex.	4,150	500:	618	404	452:	81	124	111
Ariz.	597	30:	29	40	26:	103	75	115
Utah	7,168	320:	359	273	275:	89	117	116
Nev.	528	20:	23	18	17:	87	111	118
Wash.	67,480	2,800:	2,959	2,355	2,447:	95	119	114
Oreg.	23,381	1,030:	1,029	993	917:	100	104	112
Calif	12,640	800:	825	905	606:	97	88	132
U. S.	1,076,701	71,850:	77,749	69,425	63,168:	92	103	114

1/ Based on 1938-47 average yield.

2/ Average of 5-year totals.

RYE

Requirements and Market Outlook: While the acreage of rye harvested in 1947 was larger than the acreage harvested in 1946, and while there was a slight additional increase in 1948, there has been a downward trend in the harvested acreage for a number of years largely because of the competition from other crops for available land. While it is not practicable to attempt to equal the production of prewar years, more rye would be used if supplies were larger and prices stabilized. The carryover has been far below average in recent years and it seems desirable to start building up more adequate reserves of grain for possible future emergencies. The goal of about 2.5 million acres recommended for 1949 is only slightly larger than the 1948 goal, but it is about 381,000 acres more than the acreage harvested in 1948. With average yields on the goal acreage, production in 1949 would be about 30 million bushels. This would provide for some increase in domestic consumption in 1949-50, and still give us an increase of about 3 million bushels in carryover on July 1, 1950. Assuming that production in 1949 approximates 30 million bushels, amounts are estimated for various uses as follows:

	1947-48 <u>Estimated</u>	1948-49 <u>Assumed</u> (million bushels)	1949-50 <u>Assumed</u>
<u>Food Uses</u>			
Food	6	7	7
<u>Industrial and other non-food uses</u>			
Feed	6	7	8
Seed	5	5	5
Industrial	5	6	6
Total	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Exports and shipments</u>	3	1	1
<u>Total Uses</u>	25	26	27
<u>Stocks</u>			
Beginning of year	2	3	4
End of year	3	4	7
Net Change	<u>✓1</u>	<u>✓1</u>	<u>✓3</u>
<u>Imports</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
<u>Requirements from 1949 production</u>			30
<u>Acres harvested or required (Mil.)</u>	2.0	2.2	2.5.

1/ Negligible

Production Goal: A goal of 2,478,000 acres for harvest is recommended for 1949. State goals are shown on the attached table.

Labor, Production Supplies, and Marketing Facilities: In the principle rye-producing areas, labor, production supplies, and marketing facilities should be adequate to achieve the goal.

Support Prices: A price support program is available for the 1949 crop of rye.

RYE: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage (Harvested)			% Acreage Goal is of:		
	Production:	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
	(Bushels)	(Harvested):	:Average:Average:		:Average:Average:			
		Thousands				Percent		
N. v.	261	15	18	23	13	83	65	115
N. J.	254	15	13	18	14	115	83	107
Pa.	368	25	16	60	42	156	42	60
Ohio	495	30	20	53	53	150	57	57
Ind.	1,056	80	64	126	88	125	64	91
Ill.	756	60	61	84	51	98	71	118
Mich.	828	60	80	95	60	75	63	100
Wis.	1,064	95	92	242	103	103	39	92
Minn.	3,400	250	239	443	136	105	56	184
Iowa	300	20	18	90	13	111	22	154
Mo.	484	40	40	42	45	100	95	89
N. Dak.	5,310	450	388	834	321	116	54	140
S. Dak.	5,185	425	392	637	452	108	67	94
Nebr.	3,270	300	225	360	382	133	83	79
Kans.	802	75	34	73	96	221	103	78
Del.	266	20	20	10	16	100	200	125
Md.	288	20	21	16	20	95	125	100
Va.	448	35	32	43	38	109	81	92
W. Va.	60	5	2	7	4	250	71	125
N. C.	371	35	22	52	34	159	67	103
S. C.	141	15	9	18	18	167	83	83
Ga.	85	10	6	22	12	167	46	83
Ky.	444	35	28	12	31	125	292	113
Tenn.	297	30	30	44	34	100	68	88
Okla.	644	70	36	88	83	194	80	84
Texas	564	60	30	13	18	200	462	333
Mont.	492	40	30	43	28	133	93	143
Idaho	73	5	4	6	5	125	83	100
Wyo.	102	10	7	20	17	143	50	59
Colo.	588	60	35	55	92	171	109	65
N. Mex.	49	5	5	6	9	100	83	56
Utah	100	10	7	4	10	143	250	100
Wash.	232	20	18	19	21	111	105	95
Oreg.	552	40	38	37	35	105	105	114
Calif.	156	13	17	9	12	76	144	108
U. S.	29,785	2,478	2,097	$\frac{1}{3,702}$	$\frac{1}{2,408}$	118	67	103

1/ Average of 5-year totals.

RICE

Requirements and Market Outlook: Rice production has increased greatly in the past decade in response to war and relief requirements. With a heavy demand for rice at relatively high prices, the acreage of rice has increased for nine consecutive years and the 1948 acreage is approximately 57 percent larger than the 1937-41 average. In achieving this production, rotations have been shortened or completely eliminated, and, in some instances, acreage has been expanded on submarginal land which could be operated only at a loss in periods of less favorable prices. In many areas both land and water resources are being depleted, and some adjustment in acreage is desirable in the interest of sound farm management practices.

The goal of 1.6 million acres for 1949 would be approximately 10 percent less than the 1948 acreage. With a U. S. average yield of 46.2 bushels per acre (weighted by 1949 goal acreages), production in 1949 would total 73,888,000 bushels or the equivalent of about 22 million bags of milled rice. Requirements against U. S. supplies are estimated as follows:

	1947-48 <u>Estimated</u>	1948-49 <u>Assumed</u>	1949-50 <u>Assumed</u>
	(Millions of 100-lb bags, milled rice equivalent)		
<u>DOMESTIC</u>			
Food and industrial <u>1/</u>	13.6	12.5	12.5
Seed	1.1	1.0	1.0
Feed, drying loss, and other	1.2 <u>3/</u>	.5	.5
Total	15.9	14.0	14.0
<u>EXPORTS</u>			
Cuba	5.2	4.3	4.3
Other <u>2/</u>	3.2	5.2	3.7
Total	8.4	9.5	8.0
<u>TOTAL USES</u>	24.3	23.5	22.0
<u>SUPPLY</u>			
Stocks beginning of year	.2	.3	1.0
Production	24.4	24.2	22.0
Total available	24.6	24.5	23.0
Stocks end of year	.3	1.0	1.0

1/ Includes U. S. civilian, military, and territories.

2/ Includes exports to the Far East, Europe, Canada, and other countries in the Americas. Military shipments for civilian feeding in the occupied zones included in this item. 3/ Residual item.

While domestic requirements for rice are fairly constant, exports will depend to a great extent upon the financial arrangements made by importing countries. The 1947-48 world rice crop is estimated at 7,150 million bushels, or 96 percent of the prewar level. This is slightly larger than the 1946-47 crop and represents an increase of 11 percent compared with world production in 1945-46. According to a tentative forecast, there may be a further slight increase in the 1948-49 harvest, but most of the gain is expected in heavy-importing countries of Asia where there has been a marked increase in population since the prewar period.

RICE

The 1948 exports from surplus-producing countries of Asia are estimated at only about one-third of the prewar average. In these countries, unsettled political conditions have retarded recovery of production and exports in 1949 are not likely to be significantly greater than in 1948.

In the Western Hemisphere, rice production has doubled during the past decade. While rice consumption has also expanded, the Western Hemisphere attained self-sufficiency by 1942 and has been a net exporter every year since.

It is anticipated that in 1949 there will be a continued strong demand for U. S. rice in Cuba and other Western Hemisphere countries. The volume of U. S. exports to the Far East will depend partly upon the degree of recovery in trade between the importing and exporting countries of Asia, and partly upon the ability of the importing countries, primarily India and China, to make financial arrangements for the purchase of U. S. rice. The European market has been cut off in recent years because of an international agreement to limit world exports to countries predominantly dependent on rice for food. The return of the European market will provide an additional demand for U. S. rice, but exports to that continent will be a small part of total shipments.

Production Goal: A 1949 goal of 1,600,000 acres is recommended for rice. State goals are shown in the table below:

Labor, Production Supplies, and Marketing Facilities: Labor, machinery, production supplies, and marketing facilities should be adequate to achieve the goal. While milling capacity is more than adequate, there may be a shortage of drying facilities and storage in some areas because of the rapid expansion in harvesting with combines.

Support Prices: Prices for rice harvested in 1949 will be supported at 90 percent of parity as required by law.

RICE: STATE GOALS FOR 1949

State	1949 Goal		Planted Acreage			% Acreage Goal is		
	Production:	Acreage:	1948	1937-41	1942-46	of Planted Acreage for		
	(Bushels):	Planted:				1948	1937-41	1942-46
	- - - - - t h o u s a n d s - - - - -					- - - percent - - -		
Arkansas	15,275	325	379	191	289	86	170	112
Louisiana	22,138	575	628	507	594	92	113	97
Texas	21,850	475	512	287	399	93	166	119
California	14,625	225	238	133	238	95	169	95
U. S.	73,888	1,600	1,757	1/1,118	1/1,521	91	143	105

1/ Average of 5-year totals.

FEED GRAINS

Requirements and Market Outlook: Feed grains produced in 1949 will be utilized largely in the crop year 1949-50. Therefore, in determining the feed grain acreage needed to meet the estimated requirements for 1949-50, it was necessary to consider the desirable number and production of livestock in 1950. The feed grain requirements estimates for the feeding of livestock and poultry were based on a continued heavy rate of feeding and the maximum number that would be produced.

Livestock production is expected to increase during 1948-49 over production of the past year when production was reduced largely due to the small 1947 corn crop. The increase in production in 1948-49 will be limited, however, by the number of livestock on hand at the beginning of the feed year. A further increase in 1949-50 will be required to meet the strong domestic demand for meat and other livestock products. This additional increase in 1949-50 will be needed to reach the level of livestock production which would be maintained with the prospective normal feed grain production and utilization over the next several years. The increase in livestock production now in prospect in 1948-49 is about 2 percent over the 1947-48 level and an additional increase of about 4 percent in 1949-50 is provided for in the 1949 feed grain goals.

The 1949 acreage goal with a normal or expected yield would provide for a substantially greater quantity for export and carry-over than in 1947-48 but somewhat less for these two purposes combined than the total available from the record 1948-49 supplies.

The estimated feed grain requirements for livestock feed in 1949-50 accounts for 104 million tons out of the total estimated domestic requirements for all purposes of 118 million tons. As a result of the record total production of corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums in 1948, it is expected that the carry-over at the end of 1948-49 will be increased from the very low level of 7.7 million tons at the beginning of the year to around 24 million tons at the end of the year. It was assumed that the carry-over at the end of 1949-50 should approximate this latter amount. Therefore, assuming production equals the goals, the total carry-over of these grains at the end of 1949-50 would be approximately 22 million tons compared with an estimated 24 million tons at the end of 1948-49 and with 7.7 million tons at the end of 1947-48.

After allowing for this reduction of approximately 2 million tons in carry-over, a total production of around 116 million tons of feed grains would be needed in 1949 to provide for all estimated domestic requirements in 1949-50 and to provide a reasonable total for carry-over and exports. This production would be comprised of approximately 2,973 million bushels of corn, 1,373 million bushels of oats, 304 million bushels of barley, and 116 million bushels of sorghum grains. It must be recognized that the estimated feed requirements for any single grain are only approximate, since one grain might be substituted for another.

Production Goals: In estimating goals for individual feed grains the major consideration was the total estimated requirements of around 116 million tons for 1949-50. This has been translated into acreage necessary to give that production while, at the same time, providing as good a balance in farm production as possible, considering the acreages of different crops needed.

Corn: The announced goal acreage for corn in 1949 is a planting of 85.9 million acres. This acreage would produce approximately 2,973 million bushels at a yield of 34.6 bushels per planted acre. This estimated yield assumes average growing conditions and takes into consideration performance during recent

years, the continued adoption of high yielding hybrid varieties of corn and the distribution of corn acreage that is recommended. The average yield during 1937-41 was 28.1 bushels, in 1947 it was 27.7 and in 1948 it was 42.4 bushels, the all time high.

Production of 2,973 million bushels of corn in 1949 would compare with the estimated production of 3,651 million bushels in 1948, 2,384 million bushels in 1947, and 2,576 million bushels in the prewar years 1937-41. Such 1949 production would meet anticipated domestic requirements and would allow for approximately 570 million bushels for export and carry-over.

Oats: A national acreage goal for oats of 44.75 million acres is announced. The planting of this acreage would produce 1,373 million bushels of oats if a yield of 30.7 bushels per planted acre were obtained. This estimated yield compares with 33.5 bushels in 1948, 28.4 bushels in 1947, and an average of 28.5 bushels during the 1937-41 period. Reflected in this yield are average growing conditions, higher production from improved varieties, the use of which is increasing, and the distribution of the national acreage goal among the States.

Carry-over stocks of old-crop oats on hand July 1, 1949, are expected to be in the neighborhood of 294 million bushels. On the basis of the recommended national average goal for oats in 1949, approximately 279 million bushels will be available for carry-over at the end of the year and for export.

Barley: The announced 1949 acreage goal for barley is 13.5 million acres. With the yield of 22.5 bushels per planted acre, production from a planting of this size would total 304 million bushels. A barley crop of this amount would be sufficient to meet all anticipated domestic requirements and maintain comparable carry-over stocks.

A yield of 22.5 bushels assumes average growing conditions in 1949 and takes into account past performance, the anticipated use of better yielding varieties and the recommended distribution of the goal acreage. This estimated yield compares with 23.8 bushels in 1948, 23.2 bushels in 1947, and an average during 1937-41 of 19.9 bushels.

Grain Sorghums: A planted acreage of sorghums (except for sirup) of 13.7 million acres in 1949 is recommended. This exceeds the acreage planted in 1947, and is about the same as the 1948 acreage, but is about 3.4 million acres under the average acreage planted during 1937-41.

Of the recommended 13.7 million acres of sorghums, excluding sirup, to be grown in 1949, it is recommended that the goal of acreage harvested for grain be 7 million acres. This acreage is 131 percent of the average 1937-41 acreage harvested for grain. A harvested acreage of 7 million acres would give a production of sorghum grain of 116.2 million bushels with a yield of 16.5 bushels per acre. The 1948 production was 131.6 million bushels, the 1947 production 96.0 million bushels and during 1937-41, the average was 78 million. The yield of 16.5 bushels per acre, based on the assumption of average growing conditions, upon performance in recent years and the distribution of the recommended goal acreage would be less than the 18.0 bushels per harvested acre in 1948, but larger than the average of 14.4 bushels during 1937-41.

Labor and Production Supplies: The farm labor situation has shown a definite improvement over the war years and the labor supply for next year is expected to be about the same as in 1948. No serious labor problems are anticipated. It is difficult to forecast with any degree of accuracy the rate of farm machinery production for the coming year. However, with careful use of the machinery now on hand and with that available from the quantity produced during the coming year, farmers should be able to plant and harvest the acreages recommended.

Off-farm storage facilities for feed grains are probably inadequate to handle the 1949 crops, particularly corn, with the expected production and the substantial increase in the carry-over from the previous year. In order to have sufficient storage for handling the larger carry-over it is preferable that the condition be relieved by building additional permanent storage facilities.

Market Facilities: Market facilities are considered adequate to market the 1949 crops of corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums.

Proposed Price Support Programs: Under existing legislation (Agricultural Act of 1948) it is mandatory that the price of corn be supported to producers at 90 percent of parity price as of October 1, 1949. Support prices for the other feed grains are not mandatory. However, price support programs have been in effect on barley and grain sorghums since 1940, and upon oats since 1945.

Estimated Feed Grain Utilization in 1948-49 and Requirements for 1949-50
(Marketing Years)

Item	1948-49				1949-50			
	Corn	Oats	Barley	Grain Sorghums	Corn	Oats	Barley	Grain Sorghums
	- - - M i l l i o n				B u s h e l s - - -			
Utilization for								
food--Total	315	75	115	35	175	55	90	8
U.S. Civilian	180	55	90	5	175	55	90	8
Exports and ship- ments <u>1/</u>	135	20	25	30	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Industrial Uses	90	--	10	7	100	--	10	5
Seed Requirements <u>3/</u>	12	108	22	3	12	108	22	3
Feed Use <u>3/</u>	2,700	1,200	152	86	2,775	1,225	165	85
Operating Stocks <u>4/</u>								
Beginning of year <u>4/</u>	125	185	52	9	659	294	70	10
End of year <u>4/</u>	659	294	70	10	<u>2/</u> 570	<u>2/</u> 279	<u>2/</u> 87	<u>2/</u> 25
Net change	+534	+109	+18	+1	-89	-15	+17	+15
Total Utilization or Requirements	3,117	1,383	299	131	2,973	1,373	304	116

1/ Includes U. S. Military civilian feeding.

2/ Quantity available for exports included in carry-over at the end of the year.

3/ Domestic use only.

4/ Stocks in all positions.

SUPPLY AND UTILIZATION OF FEED CONCENTRATES AND LIVESTOCK
PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES, Years beginning October,
Average 1937-41, Annual 1945-49

Item	:Average : :1937-41 : 1945 : 1946 : 1947 : 1/ : 1948 : 2/ : 1949	Million Tons	Million Tons	Million Tons	Million Tons	Million Tons	Million Tons
<u>Supply</u>							
Stocks beginning of crop year		16.9	14.9	10.9	13.7	7.7	24.0
<u>Production</u> 3/							
Corn		72.1	80.7	91.0	66.8	102.2	83.4
Oats		18.1	24.6	24.0	19.2	23.9	21.8
Barley.....		6.9	6.4	6.3	6.7	7.6	7.3
Sorghum grain		2.2	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.7	3.2
Total feed grains produced....		99.3	114.4	124.3	95.4	137.4	115.7
Other grains fed 4/		4.8	8.3	4.7	6.1	3.5	5.0
Byproduct feeds for feed.....		15.4	17.7	19.5	19.1	19.0	18.0
Total supply of concentrates..		136.4	155.3	159.4	134.3	167.6	162.7
<u>Utilization</u>							
Domestic feed grains fed.....		85.4	107.5	100.3	87.3	102.0	104.0
Domestic wheat and rye fed		4.6	8.1	4.6	6.0	3.5	5.0
Other grain fed		0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	—	—
Cilseed cake and meal fed		3.9	5.8	5.8	6.3	6.4)	
Animal protein feeds fed		2.9	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4)	18.0
Other byproduct feeds fed		8.6	9.5	11.3	10.4	10.2)	
Total concentrates fed		105.6	133.5	124.5	112.5	124.5	127.0
Feed grains for seed, human food, industry, and export ...		11.8	13.2	19.3	13.6	19.1	14.0 5/
Total utilization		117.4	146.7	143.8	126.1	143.6	141.0
Total utilization adjusted to crop-year basis.....		116.5	144.4	145.7	126.6	143.6	—
Stocks at end of crop year 3/.		19.9	10.9	13.7	7.7	24.0 6/	21.7 6/
Livestock production, Oct.- Sept., in terms of produc- tion units (Millions) 7/.....		153.0	174.8	169.6	163.9	166.0	170.0
Concentrates fed per liv- stock production unit (Ton)..<		.69	.76	.73	.69	.75	.75

1/ Preliminary. Subject to change as additional data become available.

2/ Based on indications in December 1948. Tentative estimates of carry-over and utilization.

3/ Stocks in all positions of corn on October 1 and oats and barley on July 1. Grain Sorghums stocks are not included.

4/ Imported grain and domestic wheat and rye fed.

5/ Not including exports.

6/ Includes amount available for export.

7/ New series published in "Units of Livestock Production", April 1948, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. A production unit is based on the average annual milk production of one cow. One unit is equal to 4,400 pounds milk, 283 pounds hogs, liveweight, 256 pounds chickens raised, liveweight, 311 pounds broilers raised, liveweight, 246 pounds turkeys raised, liveweight, 183 dozen eggs. In addition, it is equal to the following head of livestock on farms January 1; 0.45 cattle on feed, 2.60 heifers and heifer calves kept for milk on farms, 6.10 cattle other than cattle on feed, milk cows and heifers, and heifer calves kept for milk, 8.0 sheep and lambs on feed, 37.5 stock sheep, 0.75 horses and mules two years old and over, 6.5 colts.

CORN-State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage (Planted)			% 1949 Goal is of:		
	Production:	Acreage	: 1937-41 : 1942-46 :		: 1937-41 : 1942-46 :		: 1937-41 : 1942-46 :	
	(Bushels)	(Planted)	1948	Average	Average	1948	Average	Average
	-----		Thousands			Percent		
Maine	360	9	10	15	12	90	60	75
N. H.	504	12	11	14	13	109	86	92
Vt.	2,000	50	52	70	64	96	71	78
Mass.	1,628	37	35	41	41	106	90	90
R. I.	369	9	7	9	8	129	100	112
Conn.	2,200	50	45	48	50	111	104	100
N. Y.	23,400	650	685	687	680	95	95	96
N. J.	8,170	190	194	191	193	98	99	98
Pa.	58,800	1,400	1,416	1,336	1,359	99	105	103
Ohio	163,000	3,500	3,701	3,468	3,510	95	101	100
Ind.	220,500	4,500	4,668	4,203	4,391	96	107	102
Ill.	425,000	8,500	9,058	8,215	8,551	94	103	99
Mich.	56,100	1,700	1,729	1,580	1,729	98	108	98
Wisc.	107,940	2,570	2,570	2,314	2,588	100	111	99
Minn.	222,600	5,300	5,198	4,541	5,545	102	117	96
Iowa	551,200	10,400	10,952	9,827	10,732	95	106	97
Mo.	140,800	4,400	4,486	4,261	4,538	98	103	97
No. Dak.	28,600	1,390	1,147	1,109	1,226	113	117	106
S. Dak.	98,800	3,800	3,728	3,258	3,879	102	117	98
Nebr.	208,600	7,450	7,048	7,457	8,260	106	100	90
Kans.	62,100	2,700	2,498	2,888	3,346	108	93	81
Del.	4,500	150	142	143	140	106	105	107
Md.	16,800	480	490	494	469	98	97	102
Va.	44,400	1,200	1,185	1,381	1,257	101	87	95
W. Va.	10,730	290	297	430	339	98	67	86
N. C.	60,750	2,250	2,248	2,439	2,277	100	92	99
S. C.	28,025	1,475	1,422	1,754	1,497	104	84	99
Ga.	43,400	3,100	3,205	4,331	3,469	97	72	89
Fla.	7,920	720	712	742	722	101	97	100
Ky.	79,200	2,400	2,445	2,647	2,414	98	91	99
Tenn.	63,000	2,250	2,266	2,718	2,403	99	83	94
Ala.	44,800	2,800	2,747	3,514	2,994	102	80	94
Miss.	38,250	2,250	2,250	3,098	2,623	100	73	86
Ark.	26,000	1,300	1,263	2,220	1,682	103	59	77
La.	16,000	1,000	955	1,610	1,203	105	62	83
Okla.	23,800	1,400	1,332	1,820	1,689	105	77	83
Tex.	51,000	3,000	2,765	4,879	4,124	108	61	73
Mont.	3,000	200	205	189	201	98	106	100
Idaho.	1,092	26	28	48	35	93	54	74
Wyo.	1,125	75	58	183	98	129	41	77
Colo.	13,650	650	619	1,125	896	105	58	73
N. Mex.	2,210	170	150	218	195	113	78	89
Ariz.	385	35	36	38	34	97	92	103
Utah	960	30	24	27	24	125	111	125
Nev.	66	2	2	3	2	100	67	100
Wash.	1,040	20	16	34	21	125	59	95
Oreg.	1,295	35	31	66	40	113	53	83
Calif.	2,080	65	65	78	71	100	83	92
U.S.	2,973,149	85,900	86,196	1/91,763	1/91,630	100	94	94

1/ Average of 5-yr. totals.

OATS -

State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage (Planted)				% 1949 Goal is of:		
	Production: Acreage		: 1937-41		: 1942-46		: 1937-41		: 1942-46
	: (Bushels)	: (Planted)	: 1948	: Average	: Average	: 1948	: Average	: Average	
	- - - - - Thousands - - - - -						- - - - - Percent - - - - -		
Maine	: 2,344	: 79	: 77	: 114	: 87	: 103	: 69	: 91	
N. H.	: 280	: 14	: 12	: 15	: 13	: 117	: 93	: 108	
Vt.	: 1,218	: 58	: 65	: 80	: 74	: 89	: 72	: 78	
Mass.	: 210	: 14	: 15	: 15	: 15	: 93	: 93	: 93	
R. I.	: 32	: 4	: 3	: 3	: 4	: 133	: 133	: 100	
Conn.	: 192	: 16	: 15	: 14	: 17	: 107	: 114	: 94	
N. Y.	: 19,500	: 650	: 760	: 364	: 783	: 86	: 75	: 83	
N. J.	: 1,125	: 45	: 46	: 52	: 55	: 98	: 87	: 82	
Pa.	: 25,500	: 850	: 798	: 894	: 867	: 107	: 95	: 98	
Ohio	: 45,600	: 1,200	: 1,226	: 1,153	: 1,222	: 98	: 104	: 98	
Ind.	: 49,000	: 1,400	: 1,413	: 1,368	: 1,454	: 99	: 102	: 96	
Ill.	: 160,000	: 4,000	: 3,929	: 3,626	: 3,532	: 102	: 110	: 113	
Mich.	: 50,400	: 1,400	: 1,508	: 1,336	: 1,462	: 93	: 105	: 96	
Wis.	: 120,540	: 2,870	: 2,942	: 2,440	: 2,790	: 98	: 118	: 103	
Minn.	: 170,200	: 4,600	: 4,908	: 4,216	: 4,837	: 94	: 109	: 95	
Iowa	: 216,000	: 6,000	: 6,036	: 5,719	: 5,313	: 99	: 105	: 113	
Mo.	: 44,000	: 2,000	: 2,142	: 2,108	: 2,224	: 93	: 95	: 90	
N. Dak.	: 54,000	: 2,000	: 2,308	: 1,841	: 2,560	: 87	: 109	: 78	
S. Dak.	: 99,200	: 3,200	: 3,165	: 2,012	: 3,004	: 101	: 159	: 107	
Nebr.	: 62,400	: 2,400	: 2,766	: 1,879	: 2,343	: 87	: 128	: 102	
Kans.	: 36,300	: 1,650	: 1,616	: 1,641	: 1,743	: 102	: 100	: 95	
Del.	: 154	: 7	: 6	: 5	: 7	: 117	: 140	: 100	
Md.	: 1,248	: 48	: 47	: 39	: 48	: 102	: 123	: 100	
Va.	: 4,600	: 200	: 178	: 131	: 175	: 112	: 153	: 114	
W. Va.	: 1,760	: 80	: 75	: 99	: 92	: 107	: 81	: 87	
N. C.	: 11,880	: 540	: 356	: 297	: 439	: 152	: 182	: 123	
S. C.	: 20,240	: 880	: 606	: 573	: 772	: 145	: 154	: 114	
Ga.	: 19,000	: 1,000	: 710	: 587	: 855	: 141	: 170	: 117	
Fla.	: 5,000	: 100	: 144	: 18	: 112	: 69	: 556	: 89	
Ky.	: 2,720	: 160	: 145	: 110	: 138	: 110	: 145	: 116	
Tenn.	: 7,600	: 400	: 277	: 141	: 300	: 144	: 284	: 133	
Ala.	: 5,760	: 320	: 311	: 181	: 324	: 103	: 177	: 99	
Miss.	: 10,504	: 404	: 402	: 180	: 445	: 100	: 224	: 91	
Ark.	: 11,115	: 585	: 451	: 329	: 466	: 130	: 178	: 126	
La.	: 5,130	: 265	: 158	: 74	: 165	: 180	: 385	: 173	
Okla.	: 23,400	: 1,300	: 1,133	: 1,540	: 1,449	: 115	: 84	: 90	
Tex.	: 32,300	: 1,700	: 1,600	: 1,800	: 1,847	: 106	: 94	: 92	
Mont.	: 11,205	: 415	: 385	: 408	: 493	: 108	: 102	: 84	
Idaho	: 6,919	: 187	: 166	: 220	: 220	: 113	: 85	: 85	
Wyo.	: 4,420	: 170	: 155	: 145	: 167	: 110	: 117	: 102	
Colo.	: 6,300	: 225	: 220	: 188	: 228	: 102	: 120	: 99	
N. Mex.	: 630	: 35	: 46	: 41	: 54	: 76	: 85	: 65	
Ariz.	: 336	: 28	: 28	: 22	: 26	: 100	: 127	: 108	
Utah	: 1,225	: 35	: 48	: 46	: 56	: 73	: 76	: 62	
Nev.	: 338	: 13	: 14	: 8	: 12	: 93	: 162	: 108	
Wash.	: 5,600	: 200	: 222	: 266	: 289	: 90	: 75	: 69	
Oreg.	: 9,350	: 425	: 338	: 446	: 449	: 126	: 95	: 95	
Calif.	: 5,580	: 558	: 558	: 434	: 517	: 100	: 129	: 108	
U. S.	: 1,372,855	: 44,750	: 44,529	: 39,715	: 44,545	: 100	: 113	: 100	

1/ Average of 5-year totals.

BARLEY -State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		: Acreage (Planted)				: 1949 Goal is of:		
	: Production: Acreage :		: 1937-41:1942-46 :				: 1937-41 :1942-46		
	:(Bushels) : (Planted):1948 :		Average:Average :1948 : Average :Average				Percent - - - -		
	- - - - - Thousands - - - - -								
Maine	120	4	4	4	4	100	100	100	
Vt.	26	1	2	6	3	50	17	33	
N. Y.	3120	120	89	142	118	135	85	102	
N. J.	348	12	14	6	10	86	200	120	
Pa.	4160	130	119	107	124	109	121	105	
Ohio	520	20	19	29	37	105	69	54	
Ind.	396	18	25	41	67	72	44	27	
Ill.	720	30	37	136	85	81	22	35	
Mich.	4480	160	142	206	162	113	78	99	
Wis.	9000	250	205	731	257	122	34	97	
Minn.	33800	1300	1252	1964	1026	104	66	127	
Iowa	806	31	44	421	51	70	7	61	
Mo.	1275	75	92	199	149	82	38	50	
N. Dak.	55000	2750	2724	1859	2548	101	148	108	
S. Dak.	34000	1700	1583	1830	1927	107	93	88	
Nebr.	10800	600	560	1396	1318	107	43	46	
Kans.	8250	550	459	982	1039	120	56	53	
Del.	378	14	13	3	10	108	467	140	
Md.	2349	81	77	58	75	105	140	108	
Va.	2968	106	96	68	78	110	156	136	
W. Va.	290	10	10	9	10	100	111	100	
N. C.	800	40	41	18	54	98	232	74	
S. C.	660	33	26	11	32	127	300	103	
Ga.	160	8	6	3	10	133	237	80	
Ky.	1400	80	70	67	132	114	119	61	
Tenn.	1700	100	86	61	126	116	164	79	
Ala.	24	2	3	-	5	67	-	40	
Miss.	80	5	3	2	6	167	250	83	
Ark.	132	11	9	11	14	122	100	79	
Okla.	1625	125	126	440	434	99	28	29	
Tex.	3300	275	188	275	385	146	100	71	
Mont.	15400	700	904	192	665	77	465	105	
Idaho	13090	385	351	233	354	110	165	109	
Wyo.	5040	180	190	93	144	95	194	125	
Colo.	16500	750	723	625	839	104	120	89	
N. Mex.	800	50	30	17	51	167	294	98	
Ariz.	3500	175	209	69	132	84	254	133	
Utah	6450	150	121	98	133	124	153	113	
Nev.	768	24	24	15	23	100	160	104	
Wash.	3840	120	135	139	231	89	86	52	
Oreg.	10500	350	422	219	315	83	160	111	
Calif.	45425	1975	2062	1530	1768	96	129	112	
U. S.	304,000	13,500	13,295 ^{1/}	14,315	14,948 ^{1/}	102	94	90	

1/ Average of 5 yr. totals

SORGHUM (Except Syrup) - State Goals for 1949

State	Acreage Planted				% 1949 Goal is of:		
	1949 Goal	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
	:	:	: Average	: Average	:	: Average	: Average
	-	-	T h o u s a n d s	-	-	-	P e r c e n t -
Ind.	4	3	10	9	133	40	44
Ill.	6	4	25	13	150	24	46
Wis.	1		8	4		12	25
Minn.	10	9	41	19	111	24	53
Iowa	10	6	90	29	167	11	34
Mo.	250	178	392	251	140	64	100
N. Dak.	50	49	147	91	102	34	55
S. Dak.	500	152	1,068	568	329	47	88
Nebr.	375	379	1,407	626	99	27	60
Kans.	3,000	2,434	3,371	3,250	123	89	92
Va.	12	11	4	8	109	300	150
N. C.	20	35	16	14	57	125	143
S. C.	25	28	18	25	89	139	100
Ga.	40	43	41	39	93	98	103
Ky.	24	17	32	26	141	75	92
Tenn.	42	33	46	43	127	91	98
Ala.	125	106	33	39	118	379	321
Miss.	40	34	35	36	118	114	111
Ark.	100	84	118	88	119	85	114
La.	6	7	12	8	86	50	75
Okla.	1,300	1,576	1,958	2,177	82	66	60
Tex.	6,560	7,319	6,557	7,618	90	100	86
Mont.	4	4	11	6	100	36	67
Wyo.	8	4	26	13	200	31	62
Colo.	500	500	903	687	100	55	73
N. Mex.	500	476	539	505	105	93	99
Ariz.	70	90	41	59	78	171	119
Calif.	122	122	145	144	100	84	85
U. S.	13,704	13,703	1/17,095	1/16,395	100	80	84

1/ Average of 5 year totals.

SORGHUMS FOR GRAIN: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal	Acreage (Harvested)	% 1949 Goal is of:
	Production : Acreage	1948 : 1937-41: 1942-46:	1948 :1937-41:1942-46
	(Bushels) : (Harvested):	Average: Average:	Average: Average:
	Thousands		Percent
Ind.	28	1	100
Ill.	28	-	100
Iowa	20	1	100
Mo.	950	27	185
N. Dak.	70	6	83
S. Dak.	360	20	150
Nebr.	1,750	73	137
Kans.	15,500	1,208	1,313
N. C.	-	21	-
Ala.	1,300	54	120
Ark.	155	16	62
La.	17	1	100
Okla.	8,400	605	116
Tex.	75,650	4,635	4,229
Colo.	2,800	172	176
N. Mex.	2,760	267	197
Ariz.	2,100	75	44
Calif.	4,292	116	134
U. S.	116,180	7,298	7,089

1/ 2-yr. average.2/ 3-yr. average3/ Average of 5-year totals.

FLAXSEED

Requirements and Marketing Outlook: Total drying oil requirements are estimated at 1,050 million pounds which is about 2.8% over the 1947 estimated utilization. The demand for drying oils, which is directly connected with building and industrial activity, should continue high through 1949. New housing programs and industrial production are expected to remain at high levels. Continued large supplies and use of tung oil will tend to decrease the amount of linseed oil required, as will the use of treated soybean oil for drying. Relatively large quantities of soybean oil will also be used in combination with tung oil. Also, increased availability of castor oil is expected. Taking into consideration the factors outlined above, U. S. requirements for linseed oil in 1949-50 are estimated at 600 million pounds. Such a requirement of linseed oil represents 56.7% of the estimated 1949-50 total requirement for drying oils as compared with 56.4% in 1947 and 61% during the period 1935-39, when castor oil and soybean oil were not available in such large quantities.

We have during past years imported substantial quantities of linseed oil and flaxseed from Argentina, and smaller quantities from Uruguay. Imports, largely linseed oil, in recent years from these countries have been much smaller than our prewar imports of flaxseed. Increased supplies of flaxseed are now available from Canada and Mexico.

Purchases of linseed oil from Argentina in recent years have been unsatisfactory. Moreover, Argentina's flaxseed production has been declining, and we have no assurance as to the quantities of linseed oil or flaxseed which might be available for export to the United States. Even if supplies were assured the price asked might be considerably higher than our present domestic price. Without large supplies in the U. S. and Canada, Argentina would certainly set prices above our present support level as was done in 1946 and 1947.

1948-49. From the near-record 1948 flaxseed crop and the abnormally high July 1 stocks, it is currently estimated that we will have available for export and carryover in the 1948 crop year about 21 million bushels of flaxseed. Domestic requirements are estimated at 36.7 million bushels including the requirement for crushing to produce 600 million pounds of linseed oil.

1949-50. Current world supplies of flaxseed and linseed oil are above the effective world demand. A fairly substantial carryover is anticipated for July 1, 1949. The major part of this carryover will be held in the United States, Canada, and Argentina.

It is assumed for the purpose of determining the 1949 U. S. flaxseed goal that approximately 14 million bushels of flaxseed (in addition to normal inventories of linseed oil) would be on hand in the United States at the beginning of the 1949 crop year. This is based on the assumption that 7.1 million bushels of flaxseed will be exported in the 1948 crop year. (It is estimated that 17.1 million bushels are available for export.) To the extent that exports might be greater than 7.1 million bushels in 1948-49, imports of flaxseed would be required in 1949-50. Import supplies will be available in Canada - either from carryover or new crop - and from Mexico and Uruguay - new crop - should the U. S. have need for imports.

Total requirements for flaxseed for 1949-50 amount to 40.7 million bushels, including 31.2 million bushels for crushing to produce 600 million pounds of linseed oil, 5 million bushels for seeding purposes and allowance for dockage, one-half million bushels for possible export, and 4 million bushels as normal carryover. Against this total requirement a total carryin at the beginning of the season of 14 million bushels seems likely. This would leave approximately 26.7 million bushels to be produced domestically. If the carryin on July 1, 1949 is less than 14 million bushels, imports will be required to the extent necessary to make a total supply of 40.7 million bushels.

Production Goals: On the basis of 1943-47 average yields per planted acre, by states, a total of 3,022,000 planted acres would be required to produce 26.7 million bushels of flaxseed in 1949. A goal is recommended at this level.

A goal of approximately 3 million planted acres would be 29 percent below the high goal recommended for 1948, 38 percent below the actual planted acreage in 1948, but about 30 percent above the 1937-41 average acreage. Three million acres would be in line with the long range objective for flaxseed in the United States.

Price Supports: On October 21 the Department announced a 1949 crop price support of not less than 90% of the parity at the beginning of the marketing year for flaxseed, July 1, 1949. The actual support level will be announced later. It is anticipated that this level of support will produce the desired acreage.

The Department also announced that processor contracts will not be utilized in connection with the 1949 crop price support program for flaxseed. Non-recourse loans will be available to producers in major producing areas to effectuate any needed price support. Because flaxseed produced in Texas is not normally storable, purchases from producers will be made in 32 designated counties if necessary to assure producers not less than support prices.

In view of the elimination of the processor contract producers will need adequate storage in order to make themselves eligible for CCC loans. To insure orderly marketing of the 1948 crop producers need to give serious consideration to their storage needs.

FLAXSEED: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage Planted			% Goal is of:		
	Production	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1943-47	1948	1937-41	1943-47
	(Bushels)		Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
	- - - T h o u s a n d s - - -					- P e r c e n t -		
Ohio	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{3}$	-	-	-
Ill.	36	3	2	16	4	150	19	75
Mich.	37	5	7	8	6	71	62	83
Wis.	111	10	22	8	10	45	125	100
Minn.	9,904	1,065	1,700	1,053	1,224	63	101	87
Iowa	575	50	96	128	126	52	39	40
Mo.	26	5	7	5	11	71	100	45
N. D.	7,410	1,015	1,640	564	1,376	62	180	74
S. D.	4,094	460	716	171	476	64	269	97
Kans.	385	70	87	107	164	80	65	43
Nebr.	-	-	-	2	$\frac{1}{4}$	-	-	-
Okla.	10	2	4	10	30	50	20	7
Texas	847	110	227	33	63	48	333	175
Mont.	413	70	124	89	278	56	79	25
Idaho	10	1	-	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	17	50
Wyo.	4	1	1	-	2	100	-	50
Ariz.	552	23	38	11	19	61	209	121
Wash.	38	3	2	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	150	50	150
Oreg.	43	4	15	4	$\frac{1}{5}$	27	100	80
Calif.	2,162	125	201	111	166	62	113	75
U. S.	26,657	3,022	4,889	$\frac{2}{2}$, 305	$\frac{2}{3}$, 964	64	131	76

$\frac{1}{3}$ Short time average.

$\frac{2}{3}$ Average of U. S. totals.

SOYBEANS

1949-50 Requirements: The requirement of soybeans for beans in 1949-50 to meet effective demand at or above support levels is estimated at 193 million bushels for all purposes. Soybeans produced in 1949 will be utilized largely in the crop year October 1949-September 1950, for the production of oil and meal and for export. In view of the continuing large requirements for fats and oils for domestic consumption as well as for export it is necessary to maintain the production of soybeans at a high level.

The domestic requirements for all edible fats and oils based on an estimated 1949-50 population of 150.3 millions and with the national income at approximately present levels are estimated at 44.2 pounds per person, including the fat content of butter. This would compare with approximately 42.7 pounds per person estimated for the current fiscal year, a low of about 40 pounds during the war, and a prewar consumption, 1937-41 average, of 45.9 pounds. A consumption of 44.2 pounds per person would mean a total domestic demand of at least 6,640 million pounds of refined edible fats and oils.

Total requirements for exports and shipments of edible fats and oils are estimated at least 700 million pounds (including oil equivalent of soybeans and peanuts). Export demand for fats and oils is expected to remain strong through 1949-50 on the basis of continued needs for ECA countries and Army occupation areas, and the usual requirements of most Latin American countries for imports from the United States. Demand for soybeans may be exceptionally strong because of European preference for raw materials containing high-protein meal as well as oil, and because of the continued absence of Manchurian soybeans in world markets.

Non-food uses of edible oils in the United States are estimated at 400 million pounds, including 200 million pounds of whole soybean oil and 85 million pounds of soybean oil foots.

Total requirements of edible fats and oils for 1949-50, including the fat content of butter, are estimated as follows:

Domestic Consumption, Refined	6,640 million pounds
Exports and Shipments	700 " "
Non-food Uses, Foots & Loss	400 " "
Total	<u>7,740 " "</u>

Approximately 140 million pounds of imported oils may be used for edible purposes, mostly olive oil and lauric-acid oils (coconut, palm kernel, babassu). Most of the lauric-acid oils imported are used for industrial purposes, with less than one-fourth going to food uses. After deduction of the probable import availabilities, 7,600 million pounds would need to be obtained from domestic production. As indicated in the following table, 1,605 million pounds of crude soybean oil would be needed to meet such a requirement during 1949-50.

Domestic Production of Edible Fats and Oils 1949-50 with Comparisons

Item	: Calendar :		Crop Year		
	: Year :	1946-47 :	1947-48 :	1948-49:	1949-50
	: Average :	:	:	(Fore-:	(Fore-
	: 1937-41 :	:	:	cast):	cast)
(Million Pounds)					
Butter (fat content)	1,769	1,342	1,209	1,240	1,240
Lard	1,942	2,399	2,307	2,350	2,625
Edible Tallow & Edible Oils					
Except Soybean Oil	1,933	1,571	1,830	2,100	2,130
Soybean Oil	419	1,530	1,533	1,820 <u>1/</u>	1,605 <u>1/</u>
Total	6,063	6,842	6,879	7,510	7,600

1/ Including oil equivalent of soybeans for export.

The United States historically has imported oils such as coconut, palm, linseed, tung, and castor mainly for industrial use, and has exported edible fats such as lard, soybean oil and soybeans.

Exports of edible fats, by kinds, are illustrated in the table below. Lard for many years has been the principal fat exported. In 1938 and 1939 soybeans and soybean oil, combined, represented the second largest item. This has been true also in more recent years. Approximately 500 million pounds of lard will be surplus to ~~our~~ needs in 1949-50 if 2,625 million pounds of lard are produced. In addition the U. S. will have the equivalent of approximately 100 million pounds of edible oil in the form of shelled peanuts to export, on the basis of marketing quotas recently announced. Total export requirements are estimated at about 700 million pounds. Most of the balance of 100 million pounds would be in the form of soybeans or soybean oil, or roughly the equivalent of 10 million bushels of soybeans.

U.S. Exports of Domestically Produced Edible oils and Fats, Crude basis, and Oil Equivalent of Oilseeds for Specified Calendar Years

(Millions of Pounds)						
Item	: 1938	: 1939	: Average : 1942-45	: 1946	: 1947	: 1948
Lard	204.6	277.3	696.5	430.7	380.7	271.8
Cottonseed Oil	4.9	13.6	22.5	6.5	12.5	34.5
Cottonseed (oil equiv.)	-	-	.9	1.6	2.1	1.6
Soybean Oil	6.8	12.9	49.2	90.4	109.8	85.7
Soybeans (oil equiv.)	23.8	94.2	20.4	26.2	22.5	58.5
Peanut Oil	-	.3	.5	.3	2.2	.7
Peanuts shelled (oil equiv.)	-	-	9.6 <u>1/</u>	26.2	91.3	197.2
Edible Tallow	8.7	10.8	13.9	4.2	2.3	2.2
Margarine (fat content)	.2	.2	56.3	40.4	16.0	2.7
Shortening	2.3	3.2	19.9	11.4	3.6	3.5
Other Edible Oils & Fats	4.0	6.0	13.3	.7	.8	3.4
Total <u>2/</u>	255.3	418.5	903.0	638.7	643.9	661.8
Total Shipments to U. S. Territories	40.0	<u>3/</u> 40.0 <u>3/</u>	20.2	53.2	50.0 <u>4/</u>	55.0 <u>4/</u>
Total Exports & Shipments	295.3	<u>3/</u> 458.5 <u>3/</u>	923.2	691.9	693.9	716.8
Oilseeds - product weight						
Cottonseed, short tons	-	-	2,891	5,159	6,885	5,075
Soybeans, 1000 bushels	2,645	10,462	2,268	2,906	2,505	6,497
Peanuts, shelled, short tons	-	-	10,324 <u>1/</u>	30,522	106,126	229,327

1/ Data for 1945. Exports for 1942, 1943, 1944 not available.

2/ Total of unrounded numbers.

3/ Partly estimated. Shipments of lard to territories not reported separately.

4/ Partly estimated.

Basic data from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Production Goals: The announced acreage goal is 10,273,000 acres of soybeans for beans. This goal is ^{about} the same as the acreage harvested in 1948 except that 3,000 acres are included for Texas although the Crop Reporting Board made no estimate of soybean acreage for that State in 1948. The goal is slightly larger than the wartime average but about 900,000 acres below the record 1947 acreage. The production goal of 193 million bushels is about 27 million bushels smaller than the 1948 output. The indicated 1948 yield per acre is about 2-1/2 bushels above average and is the second highest of record.

The 10.3 million acre goal would produce 193 million bushels of soybeans on the basis of recommended state goals and 1944-48 average yields (December 1948 estimate) by States. Allowing 25 million bushels for use as seed, feed, full-fat flour, other food uses and loss, the remaining 168 million bushels would produce the estimated requirement of 1,605 million pounds of soybean oil, including the oil equivalent of soybeans for export. An average yield of 9.5 pounds of soybean oil per bushel is assumed. This oil yield is about the same as that estimated for the 1948 crop, and is above the average yield for the years 1943-47 when a much larger percentage of the crop was crushed in less efficient mills than are now crushing soybeans.

Storage facilities for soybeans are inadequate in large sections of the Atlantic Coast, Mississippi Delta, and other Southern States. Farmers should be notified that the absence of appropriate storage space on farms and at local shipping points precludes effective use of the Department's loan and purchase agreement program for soybeans in these areas. Farmers should be urged to provide storage facilities for soybeans adequate to their needs in communities where the crop is produced on a commercial scale. It is suggested that the Department conduct an intensive campaign to acquaint farmers with this problem and to encourage by all available means the building of additional bin storage.

In view of the prospect that domestic supplies of lard and of some other fats and oils will be somewhat larger in 1949-50 than in 1948-49, and in consideration of the need for limiting as much as feasible the acreage of intertilled crops in the major soybean producing region, the announced acreage goal for soybeans in 1949 ^{is} ^{about} the same as the acreage harvested in 1948. The suggested distribution of this acreage among the several States is also ^{about} the same as the acreage harvested in 1948. In several States outside of the main soybean producing region there has been an upward trend in soybean acreage in recent years. In many of the newer areas, the acreage of soybeans has been increased in line with good cropping practices, and can be retained to relatively greater advantage than in some parts of the older and more intensive producing areas.

From the standpoint of soil conservation, a reduction in acreage of intertilled crops is desirable on many farms in the Corn Belt. The continued strong need for exports of food will tend to delay the readjustment of intertilled crop acreages in this region to levels consistent with good soil conservation practices. In other areas the announced acreages of soybeans are still relatively small from the standpoint of total cropland and the possibilities of more balanced farming.

In some sections of the Corn Belt where soybeans and corn have been grown continuously for several years the soils show deterioration from depletion of humus and a breaking down of desirable soil structure. This condition calls for a return to rotations including green manure or sod crops. In some areas in this region brown stem rot, a serious fungus disease of soybeans, has been reported. This disease appears to be effectively controlled by a four-year rotation. The problems of depleted humus and brown stem rot emphasize the need for more balanced systems of cropping. It is desirable that these factors be duly considered on individual farms and that the needed acreage of soybeans in 1949 be obtained insofar as possible on farms where these problems are least likely to be serious. This may mean some reduction on farms in the most intensive areas and an increase on farms having level land that has been less intensively used for intertilled crops.

Soybeans: Acreage, Yield, Production and Utilization
1943-48 and Goal for 1949

Item	Year Beginning October						1949 Goal
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Average 1943-47	
Soybeans							
Acres grown alone, all purposes, 1000 acres	14,191	13,118	13,007	11,662	12,956	12,987	-
Acres harvested for beans, 1000 acres	10,397	10,232	10,661	9,806	11,212	10,462	10,273
Yield per acre, bushels	18.3	18.8	18.0	20.5	16.4	18.4	18.8
Production, 1000 bushels	190,133	191,958	192,076	201,275	183,558	191,800	193,000
Stocks, October 1, 1000 bushels	12,537	14,153	7,738	4,326	5,361	8,823	4,000
Total Supply	202,670	206,111	199,814	205,601	188,919	200,623	197,000
Used for seed, 1000 bushels	19,758	18,885	16,473	17,137	15,534	17,557	(
Used for full-fat flour, 1000 bushels	1,605	910	1,061	440	162	836	(
Feed and Loss	23,913	20,123	15,683	8,575	6,351	14,929	(
Crushings	142,307	153,402	159,459	170,246	161,375 *	157,358	(168,000
Net exports	934	5,053	2,812	3,842	2,972	3,123	(
Stocks, September 30 following, 1000 bushels	14,153	7,738	4,326	5,361	2,525	6,821	4,000
Average price rec'd by farmers, dollars per bu.	1.81	2.05	2.08	2.57	3.33	2.37	
Soybean oil							
Production, crude, million lbs.	1,219	1,347	1,415	1,530	1,533	1,409	1,820 2/
Yield per bushel of soybeans crushed, pounds	8.6	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.5	8.9	9.5 3/

Based on reports of Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Bureau of the Census.

1/ Preliminary; partly forecast. Acreage, yield and production based on December 1948 crop report.

2/ Includes oil equivalent of soybeans to be exported.

3/ Forecast, based on early indications of crushing outturns for the 1948 crop and trend toward increased use of solvent extraction equipment.

*/ About 3,500,000 bushels of beans from the 1948 crop were crushed.

SOYBEANS FOR BEANS

State Goals for 1949

	1949 Goal	Acreage Harvested	% 1949 Goal is of:					
State	Production:	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
	(Bushels):	(Harvested):	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
	- - - T h o u s a n d s - - -			- P e r c e n t -				
N. Y.	75	5	5	8	12	100	63	42
N. J.	184	11	11	1/5	13	100	220	85
Pa.	243	16	16	10	32	100	160	50
Ohio	16,798	908	908	434	1,097	100	209	83
Ind.	27,714	1,451	1,451	618	1,407	100	235	103
Ill.	69,999	3,271	3,271	1,803	3,445	100	181	95
Mich.	1,092	65	65	55	114	100	118	57
Wis.	200	15	15	16	47	100	94	32
Minn.	13,673	844	844	37	368	100	2,281	229
Iowa	30,150	1,500	1,541	549	1,812	97	273	83
Mo.	13,117	795	795	101	613	100	787	130
S. D.	465	31	31	2/2	15	100	1,550	270
Neb.	430	23	23	1/7	34	100	329	68
Del.	525	41	41	24	36	100	171	114
Md.	465	33	33	15	36	100	220	92
Va.	1,675	106	106	42	83	100	252	128
W. Va.	13	1	1	1	1	100	100	100
N. C.	3,432	264	264	176	231	100	150	114
Ky.	2,069	121	121	24	75	100	504	161
Tenn.	1,112	67	67	20	50	100	335	134
S. C.	194	22	22	10	13	100	220	169
Ga.	105	15	15	14	10	100	107	150
Ala.	755	51	51	12	28	100	425	182
Miss.	1,915	133	133	39	105	100	341	127
Ark.	4,303	264	264	71	244	100	372	108
La.	458	35	35	15	36	100	233	97
Okla.	62	8	8	2	8	100	400	100
Texas	24	3	-	3	11	-	100	27
N. Dak.	78	7	7	-	5	100	-	140
Kans.	1,937	167	167	19	215	100	879	78
U. S.	193,262	10,273	10,311	3/4,126	3/10,198	100	249	101

1/ 4-year average.

2/ 2-year average.

3/ Average of 5-year totals.

COTTON

Requirements and Market Outlook: The requirements for American cotton for domestic consumption and for exports during the 1949-50 marketing year are estimated at approximately 13 million running bales. It appears that the carry-over of American cotton on hand in U.S. August 1, 1949 will be from 5 to 6 million running bales. This is not unreasonably large considering requirements for consumption and export and for reserve working stocks under present world conditions. The 1949-50 requirements are based on the following considerations:

Domestic consumption of American cotton in 1949-50 will probably total about $8\frac{1}{2}$ million running bales as compared with an actual consumption of a little over 9 million in 1947-48 and an estimated consumption of 9 million for 1948-49. Currently, mills have been curtailing operations to some extent. However, the anticipated high level of industrial activity and large purchasing power should maintain consumption at a relatively high level. Also, there should be a continuing demand for textiles for export through normal trade channels and through authorizations under the ECA program.

Exports of American cotton for 1949-50 may reach $4\frac{1}{2}$ million running bales compared with an estimated 4 million running bales in 1948-49 and with slightly under 2 million in 1947-48. For the past several years world consumption has exceeded production from 2 to 3 million running bales and world stocks are at low levels when compared to disappearance. World cotton production is increasing to some extent and this relationship could be reversed. The cotton supply situation in this country at the present time is such that no ECA financing will be authorized for the purchase of upland type cotton outside the United States. This situation will probably hold at least through 1949-50.

The quality (grade and staple) of the supply of American cotton in the United States is at a relatively high level in relation to present mill requirements. The demand, from the quality standpoint, for domestic consumption and exports will probably be largely for Strict Low Middling and better in grade and one inch or longer in staple. Ginnings from the 1948 crop were longer in average staple length but somewhat lower in grade than for the 1947 crop. The proportion of Strict Middling and higher is less than for a year earlier, but the proportion of Middling and Strict Low Middling is much larger. Also, the proportions of the lengths 1-1/16 and 1-3/32" is much larger than for last year. With the large indicated production and the high quality of the carry-over, stocks should be ample to meet necessary requirements from the quality standpoint for domestic consumption and for exports.

Production Goals and Production Adjustment: The 1949 acreage goal for cotton is 21,894,000 planted acres. This compares with 23,372,000 planted acres in 1948 and 21,500,000 planted acres in 1947. With a 5-year (1944-48) average yield per acre of 268.9 pounds per acre, the 1949 acreage goal would produce 12,081,000 running bales. This production would be one million bales less than the estimated requirements for the 1949-50 season. This would leave a carry-over August 1, 1950 one million bales less than August 1, 1949. Assuming average weather conditions and a labor supply for harvesting the current crop of not less than that for last year, the quality of cotton in the 1949 carry-over should be about the same as that of the 1948 carry-over which was higher in quality than for any recent year.

No separate goal is for American-Egyptian cotton.

Price Support: Present legislation provides price support at 90 percent of parity as of July 15, 1949. The price support will be applicable to the entire 1949 crop including that harvested after December 31, 1949.

Labor and production supplies

Planting seed - Adequate supplies of planting seed of good quality will be available for the 1949 crop. It is estimated that about 85 percent of the cotton is now being produced from four varieties. In a few local areas seed of the quality desired may not be readily available. However, from nearby sources there probably will be sufficient quantity of adapted seed to meet the needs of these areas.

By an orderly process of multiplying and distributing breeder seed, and maintaining varietal purity through one-variety production, most farmers throughout the Cotton Belt should be able to plant their entire crop in seed not more than two years removed from the breeder.

Fertilizer - Supplies of fertilizers for 1949 are expected to be somewhat larger than for 1948. Prices probably will average higher in 1949 than in 1948. As compared to consumption last year the supplies of fertilizer in the continental United States for the coming year will be somewhat as follows: a little over 10 percent more nitrogen, $5\frac{1}{2}$ percent more phosphoric acid (P_2O_5) and an increase of

almost 10 percent in potash (K_2O) supplies. Supplies of nitrogen may not be large enough to meet demand in some areas.

Cotton growers should be able to obtain reasonably adequate fertilizer supplies for the goal. Because of competition from other crops they should anticipate their needs as far in advance as possible.

Labor - The number of workers employed on farms in the Cotton Belt and the number of part time workers available for employment during periods of peak labor requirements will not be greatly different in 1949 from what it was in 1948, and should be adequate to attain the goal. Labor scarcities may develop in some areas where industrial demand for workers increases substantially. Farm wage rates will continue near or exceed present high levels. Sustained high non-farm employment will prevent any large additions to the farm labor supply.

Machinery and Equipment - Production of farm machinery in 1948 is expected to be the highest on record. A continued high level is in prospect for 1949. Increases in production are expected to be especially pronounced in tractors and tractor machine. Prices of machinery and motor fuel are expected to remain high in 1949.

Supplies of motor trucks are generally ample in most areas and supplies should be adequate in all areas in the near future.

Insecticides and Fungicides - Supplies of insecticides and fungicides are expected to meet requirements for 1949 and prices for these products are expected to be near levels prevailing in 1948.

Marketing Facilities: Gin and compress facilities are expected to be ample to handle the 1949 goal crop. In the far Western States where the acreage of cotton has expanded sharply in recent years, ginning and compressing facilities have been materially increased, but may be somewhat inadequate. The supply of bagging and ties should also be adequate. Classing for producers under the Smith-Doxey Act and other legislation almost doubled that of last year and classing facilities were greatly overtaxed. Therefore, delays in receipt of classing certificates for use of producers in selling on the market or placing their cotton in the loan, have been numerous. Demands for these classing services have been increasing for several years and unless classing facilities are expanded the 1949 situation is not expected to show any improvement over 1948.

Although the carry-over on August 1, 1949 is expected to be around 5 to 6 million bales, storage facilities for the 1949 crop should be ample in most areas. However, temporary storage which is customary in some areas may have to be used for short periods pending the movement to ports, mills, and warehousing points.

At the present and prospective rate of production of new railroad cars, it will take a long time to obtain any substantial increase. The production of new motor trucks remains at a high level. This should relieve somewhat the situation resulting from freight car shortage.

Goal Achievement - The factors that will largely determine the acreage planted to cotton during 1949 are (1) the relative price level of cotton and competing crops (2) supply and availability of farm labor (3) supply of fertilizer available for cotton and (4) wage rates. Assuming that the price of cotton in relation to competitive crops will be about as at present, and that the production facilities do not deviate greatly from that indicated in this report, there is no reason to believe that the 1949 planted acreage will be less than the announced goal. In the interest of maintaining the desirable shifts in land use which have occurred, to encourage continued conservation measures, and to maintain proper balance between cotton supplies and requirements, every effort should be made not to exceed the announced goal.

COTTON: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goals		Acreage 1/		% Acreage Goal is of:			
	Production:	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
	(running	1/		average	average		average	average
	bales)	:						
- - T h o u s a n d s - -			- P e r c e n t -					
Mo.	394	445	534	429	359	83	104	124
Va.	18	22	24	42	29	92	52	76
N. C.	560	677	725	880	724	93	77	94
S. C.	803	1,103	1,133	1,344	1,059	97	82	104
Ga.	709	1,313	1,313	2,115	1,435	100	62	91
Fla.	11	24	27	81	34	89	30	71
Tenn.	581	731	753	767	669	97	95	109
Ala.	1,049	1,622	1,627	2,142	1,536	100	76	106
Miss.	1,736	2,524	2,560	2,770	2,391	99	91	106
Ark.	1,523	2,123	2,371	2,283	1,799	90	93	118
La.	502	903	940	1,228	912	96	74	99
Okla.	342	1,074	1,074	1,938	1,442	100	55	74
Texas	2,728	8,336	8,974	9,560	7,154	93	87	117
N. Mex.	184	170	215	117	120	79	145	142
Ariz.	219	223	275	233	184	81	96	121
Calif.	709	589	810	405	327	73	145	180
Other 2/	13	15	17	23	18	88	65	83
<hr/>								
U. S.	12,081	21,894	23,372	3/ 26,358	3/20,189	94	83	108

1/ In cultivation July 1.

2/ Includes Ky., Ill., and Kansas.

3/ Average of 5-year totals.

DRY EDIBLE BEANSRequirements and Market Outlook:

Domestic: The domestic demand for beans in the fiscal year 1949-50 is expected to continue at the relatively high per capita levels of the past several years. This together with seed requirements of 1.3 million bags for seeding in 1950 makes a total domestic requirement of 14.7 million bags.

Export: It is expected that the total exports in 1949-50 will not exceed one-half million bags. This compares with exports for 1947-48 of 2.7 million bags, and probable exports in 1948-49 of approximately 2.2 million bags. The reduction in 1949-50 is expected as a continuation of the trend which began early in 1948 toward substantial reduction of imports into Europe and occupied areas in the Far East. The downward trend would be reversed if it is decided to utilize supplies at a per capita level comparable to prewar, particularly in Europe. Exports to Western Hemisphere markets are expected to continue at the same volume as in recent years.

The export demand is extremely difficult to gauge even for the current season. All available figures indicate a shortage of beans and related commodities in Europe. The population is up 10 percent from prewar, and bean production is indicated to be 12 percent below prewar in Europe. There has been little active demand for Western Hemisphere beans during 1948. Exports which have occurred this year, and are currently anticipated for early 1949, have been programmed largely by the government to the occupied areas. In spite of decline in United States bean prices and still lower production indicated in Europe, it appears doubtful now that substantial export demand will develop for areas not under occupation.

The carry-in to the 1948-49 crop year was below desirable levels, reflecting the generally distressed conditions abroad. With the large 1948 production and the probable reduction in export demand, it is now anticipated that carry-over will be substantially higher than in recent years, and somewhat above desirable levels. On the other hand, the yields on beans have been quite variable from year to year, since the crop is very sensitive to adverse weather conditions.

Goal 1949: It appears prudent to provide for a production which will reduce the carry-over to a level providing minimum supplies in the event of a poor crop in 1950, and at the same time avoiding heavy surpluses if the 1950 crop is good. A crop of 15.3 million bags (uncleaned) as compared with 20.8 million in 1948, could be expected to achieve this result. It would provide for domestic requirements, conservative exports, and a carry-over of 2.3 million bags as against an anticipated carry-over of 3.3 million bags from the 1948 crop. The distribution of carry-over as between classes is approximately in balance. Because 1948 yields were exceptionally high, the required decrease in acreage is much less substantial than the production decrease indicates. Accordingly, a goal of 1,800,000 acres was announced. Assuming 1943-47 average yields, and the distribution by States recommended in Table 1 attached, this acreage would produce 15,319,000 bags (uncleaned), or 14,183,000 bags of cleaned beans if the crop is of average quality. The goal compares with the 1948 planted acreage of 1,971,000 acres.

In establishing the state goals, state recommendations were followed to the greatest extent consistent with the desired production by types and the necessity of acreage reduction. An increase in acreage over 1948 was approved only for New Mexico. The acreage for New Mexico is still only about 75 percent of the 1937-46 average, and is the lowest percentage for any major producing state. In the other principal states, moderate decreases from 1948 were approved with the exception of substantial decreases in Nebraska and Wyoming. In Nebraska and Wyoming the goals are the same as the State recommendations. In Michigan the goal is higher than the State recommendation, but a lower goal would be quite inconsistent with past plantings.

Labor and Production Supplies: Labor and production supplies and marketing facilities are generally adequate to take care of the proposed goal acreage. There is a need for more farm storage facilities since warehousing facilities in most producing localities are inadequate. Growers should be urged to develop storage facilities on their own farms to reduce distress selling at harvest.

Recommendations for Goal Achievement: Full publicity for both the goal and the support price level will probably achieve the goal in view of the conditions current for the 1948 crop.

Table 1

DRY EDIBLE BEANS STATE GOALS FOR 1949

	1949 Goal		Acreage (Planted)				% 1949 Goal is of:		
State	Production:	Acreage	1948	1937-41:	1942-46:	1948	1937-41:	1942-46	
	(000 Cwt.):	(Planted):		Average:	Average:		Average:	Average	
	(uncleaned)								
	- - - - - Thousands - - - - -					- - - Percent - - -			
Maine	52	6	8	9	6	75	67	100	
N. Y.	1,333	145	172	156	126	84	93	115	
Mich.	3,299	470	514	571	583	91	82	81	
Minn.	4	1	1	3	5	100	33	20	
Nebr.	1,029	80	85	24	63	94	333	127	
Mont.	338	30	30	19	34	100	158	88	
Idaho	1,921	125	148	115	143	84	109	87	
Wyo.	925	75	98	60	95	76	125	79	
Colo.	1,936	335	341	378	361	98	89	93	
N. Mex.	369	180	174	238	238	103	76	76	
Ariz.	68	13	14	14	14	93	93	93	
Utah	44	7	13	6	6	54	117	117	
Wash.	57	5	5	3	4	100	167	125	
Calif.	3,919	325	368	371	354	88	88	92	
Others	25	3/ 3	-	1/ 8	2/10	-	38	30	
U. S.	15,319	1,800	1,971	4/1,975	4/2,042	91	91	88	

1/ Includes Vermont 2, Wisconsin 3, Kansas 1, and Oregon 2.

2/ Includes Vermont 1, Wisconsin 2, Kansas 1, Texas 3, South Dakota 1, North Dakota 1, and Oregon 1.

3/ Includes Vermont, Texas, Oregon, Wisconsin, Kansas, North and South Dakota.

4/ Average of 5-year totals.

DRY EDIBLE PEAS

Requirements and Market Outlook: The acreage for smooth peas is considered separate from the total goal of all peas in this report because the principal use of wrinkled peas is for food only in the fresh, canned, or frozen state and for seed in the dry form. Therefore, we are primarily interested in the production of dry smooth peas for utilization in the dry state.

Smooth Peas: Production of peas has been substantially expanded since prewar in order to meet heavy export requirements. Peas have played an important role in relief feeding in European areas and Japan because of their high nutritional value in relation to cost. Production in 1947 approximated 5 million bags (cleaned) of which more than half was available for export. Until the 1947 crop year no difficulty was experienced in moving the exportable surpluses. During the last fiscal year a noticeable slowing in foreign demand has been apparent due to lack of exchange, price fluctuations and the natural preferences for other foodstuffs by importing countries. The 1948 crop is expected to be substantially smaller than 1947 because of extremely unfavorable planting conditions and may be less than 2.5 million bags (cleaned). Because of relatively favorable crop prospects in Europe and natural preference for other foodstuffs foreign demand in the 1948/49 fiscal year is expected to be sharply below recent years in spite of the funds available under the Economic Cooperation Administration. Export demand in the 1949/50 crop year may well be restricted to 0.5 million bags or less if 1949 crops abroad are good. On the other hand, an increase in the domestic consumption (as food) (about 1 million bags) is extremely doubtful. A surplus supply which reaches the proportions of 0.5 million bags would be quite burdensome in view of the limited domestic consumption. It is the judgment of the Goals Committee that the uncertainty of foreign requirements makes it prudent to establish a goal which would provide not to exceed .5 million bags of peas for export from the 1949 crop. If the export demand should fall to prewar levels carryover from such a production would approach dangerous levels. However, it is felt that a reasonable risk should be taken because of the possibility that conditions abroad may be such as to make export demand greatly stronger than prewar. Requirements for smooth peas are estimated as follows:

ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS

	<u>1,000 - 100-lb. Bags</u>
Domestic - food	1,000
Domestic - seed	1,000
Exports and shipments	500
Total requirements	2,500

Wrinkled Peas: It can be expected that about 125,000 acres of wrinkled peas will be harvested as dry peas and will be required for 1950 planting for processing, freezing, garden peas, and feed. Most of this seed is produced under commercial growers' contracts. Growers should secure such contracts before planting acreages to wrinkled peas for seed purposes.

Production Adjustments: The committee recommends that the 1949 smooth pea goal be established at 225,000 acres. This compares with the 1948 goal of 390,000 acres. 1943/47 average yields are substantially higher than prewar, due in large part to the great improvement in the control of peas weevils as a result of the use of new insecticides. The proposed goal is based on the 1943/47 average yields. It is believed that this goal will provide sufficient peas to meet all domestic requirements as well as probable export needs. If export requirements fail to materialize in the anticipated volume it may be necessary to divert peas into feed uses and losses under the price support program would be incurred. However, this would probably not be necessary unless foreign demand fell to prewar levels.

Recommended Goal: A goal of 350,000 acres of all peas is proposed, as compared with 517,000 acres for 1948. The goal consists of 225,000 acres of smooth peas with the remainder of 125,000 being the acreage expected to be planted to wrinkled types. In Washington and particularly in Idaho, it is desired to increase the acreage of Austrian winter peas. This will provide a profitable crop into which the growers may shift from edible pea types on farms where such a shift is feasible.

Labor and Production Supplies: Labor and production supplies and marketing facilities are adequate to take care of the proposed goal acreage.

Price Recommendation: It is recommended that the support price for 1949 crop be established at 60 percent of parity, the minimum provided by law. Support at no higher than the legal minimum will be necessary to promote the shift into desirable competing crops in the judgment of the committee.

DRY EDIBLE PEAS: State Goals For 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage		% Acreage	
	: All		Planted		Goal All	
	: Smooth Peas		All Peas		: Peas is of	
	: Pro- duction:	: Plant- ed	: Plant- ed	: July 1937-41; 1942-46: Average:	: July 1937-41; 1942-46: Average:	: Average:
	* 1/	: Acres	: Acres	: 1948	: Average	: Average

	* T H O U S A N D S -					- P E R C E N T			
Idaho	765	60	96	92	67	187	104	143	51
Colorado	140	25	25	24	44	37	104	57	68
Washington	1,695	130	155	166	135	296	93	115	52
Other 2/	110	10	74	56	33	115	132	224	64
U. S.	2,710	225	350	338	286	633	104	122	55

1/ 1,000 - 100 lb. bags, uncleaned, based on 1943-47 average yields per planted acre.

2/ Includes California, Michigan, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana and Oregon.

IRISH POTATOES

The total acreage goal for all states is 1,938,300 acres which compares with 2,137,700 acres planted in 1948 (October) and 2,135,500 acres in 1947. This acreage is based on an assumed goal yield of 186 bushels per acre which is the 5 year 1946-48 (October 1948) average yield per planted acre. This compares with planted acreage yields of 196 bushels as of October 1948, 179 bushels in 1947 and 183 bushels in 1946. Naturally the U. S. average yield per acre changes as the acreage is shifted among the states. This acreage should produce a crop of approximately 350 million bushels. This production would provide for a consumption of 120 pounds of potatoes per person.

In 1949 only the commercial goals were issued to the states. In previous years both commercial and non-commercial state goals were issued. The 1949 commercial goal is 1,223,100 acres which compares with an estimated commercial acreage of 1,422,500 in 1948 and 1,379,100 acres in 1947. This is 86 and 89 percent respectively of the commercial acreage in 1948 and 1947.

The announced acreage goals for 1949 were calculated as follows:

1. The 5-year 1943-47 average production by states.
2. One-fourth of the 3-year (1945-47) average government purchases by states was deducted from the average production.
3. When the state total planted acreage in a particular state during 1946 and 1947 exceeded the state total acreage goal, this excess acreage was converted to bushels based on that year's yield per acre. This total excess production for the 2 years was divided by 5, and the resulting bushels were deducted from the 1943-47 average production.
4. The residual number of bushels by states was factored by .8687 to allow for a 350 million bushel crop.
5. The goal production by states was converted to acres by dividing by the 3-year 1946-48 (October 1948) yield per acre by states.
6. The state acreage was then divided between commercial and non-commercial acreage on the basis of data furnished in the replies to Fruit and Vegetable Memorandum No. 113 and other available information. Commercial acreage is defined as 3 or more acres of potatoes on an individual farm.
7. Then no state was assigned a commercial acreage higher than 90 percent of its 1948 commercial planted acreage. This factor reduced the U. S. production to 339 million bushels because we have assumed that non-commercial acreage would remain constant. All commercial acreage was raised by 4.5 percent to balance out to 350 million bushels, except that no state was assigned a commercial goal higher than its 1947-48 average planted commercial acres.

IRISH POTATOES: State Allotments for 1949

	1949	Total Acreage Planted - All Potatoes			
State	Commercial Acreage	1948	1937-46	1937-41	1942-46
	Allotments	October	December	December	December
		T h o u s a n d s			
Maine	141.3	184	177	157	198
N. Y., L. I.	45.2	59	58	49	68
N. Y., Upstate	46.9	83	141	155	126
Pa.	64.1	111	167	179	154
Mich.	67.1	108	204	228	181
Wis.	38.5	88	169	190	148
Minn.	68.0	113	219	238	200
N. D.	121.3	138	158	144	172
S. D.	12.1	22	33	30	35
Nebr.	31.7	54	80	83	77
Mont.	8.8	16	18	17	19
Idaho	130.9	152	154	130	179
Wyo.	9.6	14	17	19	15
Colo.	60.3	77	86	86	87
Utah	9.8	15	15	13	18
Nev.	1.1	1.5	2.7	2.1	3.2
Wash.	26.0	40	39	39	40
Oreg.	32.4	44	42	36	49
Calif.(late)	30.6	37	37	35	40
N. H.	2.2	4.7	7.6	7.8	7.3
Vt.	2.2	7.1	12.2	13.4	11.0
Mass.	7.0	16.0	19.5	16.5	22.5
R. I.	4.3	6.8	5.5	4.5	6.6
Conn.	7.5	14.2	17.6	15.7	19.4
W. Va.	.9	25	32	32	31
Ohio	18.6	43	86	100	73
Ind.	7.6	23	45	51	38
Ill.	1.0	11	31	38	25
Iowa	1.7	12	46	57	35
N. Mex.	.9	3.0	3.8	3.7	3.9
N. J.	34.6	57	61	54	67
Del.	.4	2.9	4.1	4.2	3.9
Md.	5.0	13.4	22.3	22.6	18.4
Va.	24.9	63	75	78	72
Ky.	3.2	34	42	42	43
Mo.	3.2	20	38	43	34
Kans.	2.4	12	26	27	24
Ariz.	3.0	5.3	3.6	1.6	5.7
N. C.	20.5	74	86	83	89
S. C.	7.9	19	26	24	27
Ga.	1.1	16.3	23.9	22.6	25.2
Fla.	20.3	24.5	34	33	34
Tenn.	3.8	30	41	41	42
Ala.	15.1	36	50	49	51
Miss.	.5	17	25	22	28
Ark.	1.9	28	42	40	44
La.	12.2	26	46	42	49
Okla.	.6	14	29	30	29
Tex.	18.3	44	54	52	55
Calif.(Early)	44.6	79	47.5	34.6	60
U. S.	1,223.1	2,137.7	1/2,897.1	1/2,913.0	1/2,881.2

1/ Average of 5-year totals.

SWEETPOTATOES

Requirements and Market Outlook: The demand for sweetpotatoes at high prices has been limited. Except during the main harvesting period, prices generally have been satisfactory because of a much smaller supply. The sweetpotato acreage harvested in 1948 was the smallest since 1899. It was 13 percent less than in 1947, and 28 percent less than the 1938-42 average. Production was 11 percent less than in 1947, and 20 percent less than the 1938-42 average. Estimates indicate the average price received by farmers for the 1948 crop were slightly higher than received for the 1947 crop. In areas where storage generally is not practiced and varieties are produced for which the demand is limited, marketing difficulties were again encountered at harvest time.

Production Adjustment: During the main harvesting period of 1948, prices declined to support levels in areas where the Golden is the principal variety produced, and it was necessary for the Department to purchase some of the production in these areas under the sweetpotato price support program. In 1947, it was necessary to purchase approximately 600,000 bushels to support the market in these same areas. Difficulties also were encountered earlier in the 1948 season in marketing the Triumph variety.

Production Goal: A sweetpotato acreage of 607,000 acres was announced as a goal for 1949. This is 17 percent more acreage than planted in 1948, but is 16 percent less than the 1938-42 average. Such an acreage with 1942-46 average yields would result in a production of 56,773,000 bushels, which is 14 percent more than in 1948 but is 13 percent less than the 1943-47 average. In apportioning the acreage among the various states consideration has been given to the acreage planted in recent years and the varieties produced, and storage practices in the particular states. Increases are suggested for those states where desirable varieties are produced and a larger proportion of the crop is stored and decreases are suggested where the opposite is true. This results in a total U.S. goal larger than in 1948.

Price Support: Sweetpotatoes will be supported as authorized by law and as funds are available. Prices will be supported with varietal and seasonal differentials. Under previous price support programs sweetpotatoes were required to be supported at not less than 90 percent of parity. In 1949 the law provides that sweetpotatoes will be supported at not less than 60 percent but not more than 90 percent of parity. After December 31, 1949, price support on sweetpotatoes is not mandatory.

Recommendations for Improving Production and Marketing Practices: The following practices are necessary to help avoid marketing difficulties:

- (1) Produce varieties for which the demand is greater.
- (2) Select better seed stock to improve the quality of the variety grown.
- (3) Store considerably larger quantities for marketing after the harvest season has ended in areas encountering marketing difficulties.
- (4) Improve handling and grading practices and divert the lower grades to canning and livestock feed outlets.

SWEETPOTATOES: State Goals for 1949

State	1949 Goal		Acreage (Planted)			% Acreage Goal is of:		
	Production	Acreage	1948	1938-42	1943-47	1948	1938-42	1943-47
	(Bushels)1/	Planted		Average	Average		Average	Average
		thousands					Percent	
N. J.	2,240	16	15.	15.0	16.0	107	107	100
Indiana	210	2	1.3	2.2	1.6	154	91	125
Illinois	258	3	2.0	3.2	3.1	150	94	97
Iowa	202	2	1.8	2.2	1.7	111	91	118
Missouri	546	6	7.0	8.0	7.7	86	75	78
Kansas	224	2	1.5	2.8	2.2	133	71	91
Delaware	119	1	.8	2.5	1.4	125	40	71
Md.	1,162	8	8.5	8.0	9.5	94	100	84
Virginia	2,688	24	26.	31.4	28.4	92	76	85
N. C.	6,976	64	49.	78.4	68.4	131	82	94
S. C.	5,184	54	42.	54.8	62.8	129	99	86
Georgia	6,160	77	60.	100.8	90.0	128	76	86
Florida	1,122	17	15.	17.4	18.0	113	98	94
Ky.	1,105	13	12.	15.4	15.6	108	84	83
Tenn.	2,450	25	20.	41.8	33.6	125	60	74
Ala.	5,146	62	53.	74.2	72.0	117	84	86
Miss.	4,650	50	43.	65.4	61.2	116	76	82
Ark.	1,377	17	15.	25.0	21.4	113	68	79
La.	8,370	90	79.	93.6	111.6	114	96	81
Okla.	441	7	6.	10.4	9.6	117	67	73
Texas	4,895	55	51.	56.4	68.4	108	98	80
Calif.	1,248	12	10.	11.2	11.6	120	107	103
	56,773	607	518.9	2/720.2	2/714.4	117	84	85

1/ Assuming 1942-46 average yields.

2/ Average of 5-year totals.

1949 PRODUCTION GUIDES FOR VEGETABLES FROM COMMERCIAL TRUCK
CROP AREAS FOR FRESH MARKET AND TRUCK CROPS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

SUMMARY OF 1949 GUIDES FOR FRESH MARKET VEGETABLES

Winter: The suggested acreage of 281,750 acres for the 15 winter vegetable crops, included in this guide statement, is 3 percent less than the acreage of these winter season crops available for harvest in 1948. It is 7 percent more than the acreage available for harvest in 1947, 9 percent more than the 1937-46 average, and about equal to the 1942-46 average.

Production of these winter vegetables in 1948 was 1,401,000 tons, 8 percent more than the 1,294,000 tons produced in 1947 and 23 percent more than the average of 1,137,900 tons produced in the winter season of the 1937-46 period. The acreage of these crops suggested herein, with average yields, would result in a production about equal to that of 1948.

Spring: The suggested 490,180 acres of the 17 spring vegetable crops, included in this guide statement, is about equal to the acreage of these spring season crops available for harvest in 1948. It is 2 percent less than the acreage available for harvest in 1947, 1 percent less than the 1942-46 average but 2 percent more than the 1937-46 average.

Production of these vegetables in 1948 was 1,698,300 tons, 6 percent less than the 1,801,900 tons produced in 1947, 4 percent more than the average of 1,629,700 tons produced in the spring seasons of the 1942-46 period, and 13 percent more than the average of 1,507,100 tons produced in the 1937-46 period. The suggested acreage of these crops, with average yields, would result in a production 1 percent more than in 1948.

Summer: The suggested 717,850 acres of 18 summer vegetables is one percent more than the acreage of those crops harvested in 1948. It is 7 percent less than the acreage harvested in 1947 but one percent more than the 1942-46 and the 1937-46 averages.

The suggested acreage, with average yields, would result in a production in 1949 of 3,162,000 tons, 3 percent less than the 3,257,700 tons produced in 1948. Production in 1949 would be 5 percent less than in 1947, about equal to the 1942-46 average but 4 percent more than the 1937-46 average.

Fall: The suggested 253,500 acres of 12 fall vegetables is 5 percent less than the acreage of those crops harvested in 1948. It is 3 percent more than the acreage harvested in 1947, 1 percent more than the 1942-46 average and 6 percent more than the 1937-46 average.

The suggested acreage, with average yields, would result in a production in 1949 of 1,530,250 tons, 7 percent less than the 1,653,800 tons produced in 1948, 2 percent less than the 1942-46 average, but 5 percent more than in 1947 and 8 percent more than the 1937-46 average.

SUMMARY OF 1949 GUIDES FOR TRUCK CROPS FOR COMMERCIAL PROCESSING

The suggested 1,700,960 acres of 9 truck crops for commercial processing is 1 percent less than in 1948. It is 12 percent less than in 1947, 17 percent less than the 1942-46 average, 2 percent less than the 1937-46 average, but 20 percent more than the 1937-41 average.

The suggested acreage, with average yields, would result in a production in 1949 of 4,729,800 tons, 12 percent less than the 5,348,820 tons produced in 1948. It is 13 percent less than in 1947, 14 percent less than the 1942-46 average, about the same as the 1937-46 average, but 21 percent more than the 1937-41 average.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION - 1948

The 1948 acreage of truck crops for commercial processing for the 9 vegetables included in these suggested guides of 1,718,190 acres, was 11 percent less than in 1947, 16 percent less than the 1942-46 average, 1 percent less than the 1937-46 average, but 20 percent more than the 1937-41 average. The 1948 production, because of above average yields, was only 2 percent less than in 1947, 3 percent less than the 1942-46 average, but 13 percent more than the 1937-46 average, and 37 percent more than the 1937-41 average. Farm values per unit of production averaged about 2 percent more in 1948 than in 1947 and 43 percent more than the 1937-46 average. Prices for truck crops for processing are influenced strongly by contracting that occurs early in the year. This results in a time lag in price adjustments to production. The 1948 acreage was 6 percent less than was recommended in the 1948 acreage guide statement.

Winter: The 1948 winter season truck crop acreage of 289,140 acres was 10 percent more than the 262,160 acres available for harvest in 1947, 2 percent more than the average of 282,440 acres in the 1942-46 period and 12 percent more than the average of 258,230 acres in the 1937-46 period. This winter acreage was 4 percent more than the 1948 guide statements recommendation.

Spring: The 1948 spring season truck crop acreage was 488,880 acres. It was 3 percent less than the 501,730 acres available for harvest in 1947 and 1 percent less than the average of 495,540 acres in the spring seasons of the 1942-46 period, but 1 percent more than the average of 481,970 acres for the 1937-46 period. The 1948 spring acreage was 5 percent less than the 1948 guide statements recommended.

Summer: The 1948 summer truck crop acreage, for the 18 summer vegetables included in these suggested guides, of 709,490 acres, was 8 percent less than in 1947, about equal to the 1942-46 and the 1937-46 averages. The acreage reductions largely were among the melon crops, in part, because of unsatisfactory prices for watermelons in 1947 and adverse weather conditions in some important sections. The 1948 acreage was 11 percent less than was recommended in the 1948 acreage guide statement.

Fall: The 1948 fall truck crop acreage, for the 12 fall vegetables included in these suggested guides, of 267,070 acres, was 9 percent more than in 1947, 7 percent more than the 1942-46 average, and 12 percent more than the 1937-46 average. The 1948 production was 14 percent more than in 1947, 6 percent more than the 1942-46 average, and 17 percent more than the 1937-46 average. Farm values per unit of production averaged about 25 percent less in 1948 than in 1947 but about 23 percent more than the 1937-46 average. The 1948 acreage was 4 percent more than was recommended in the 1948 acreage guide statement.

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING PROBLEMS

In 1949, the situation, with respect to Farm Machinery, Fertilizers, Seeds, Insecticides and Fungicides, Containers, Farm Labor, and Transportation is expected to be generally better than in 1948.

Farm Machinery: Farm Machinery production is expected to exceed previous records and plant capacity is still being expanded. Larger quantities of machinery may be exported than a year ago but even with these increased exports more farm machinery is expected to be available for domestic use in 1949 than in any previous year.

Fertilizer: Fertilizer supplies are expected to be larger than in 1948 and may reach record production levels. Nevertheless, the increased production of nitrogen and potash supplies may be inadequate to meet expanded demands but phosphate supplies should be adequate.

Insecticides and Fungicides: Insecticides and Fungicides are expected to be adequate to meet all demands with the possible exception of nicotine compounds. All of the other insecticides and fungicides, including the newer ones, probably will be available in sufficient quantities to meet demands.

Containers: A sufficient supply of containers is expected to be available for the 1949 fresh vegetable crop. Wooden containers and materials such as lumber and veneer are adequate. A possibility exists that wire and nails may be in short supply. Open mesh bag materials and paper supplies appear adequate.

The strong demand for steel and the necessity for building a stockpile of tin very probably will necessitate the continuation of controls over the use of tin and tin plate. Indications at the present are that the domestic tin plate supply for 1949 will be about the same as for 1948.

Seed: Vegetable seed is not expected to be a limiting factor in the production of vegetables in 1949 even though large quantities of some kinds of vegetable seeds may be exported. Some shortages of particular varieties may occur but it appears that other suitable varieties of seeds will be available for substitution.

Farm Labor: Lack of farm labor should not be a limiting factor in farm production in the fall of 1949. The supply probably will not be greatly different from that in 1948. Increased supplies of labor saving machines will be available to reduce the demand for labor for many farm operations. Labor scarcities may develop in some areas where industrial demand for workers increases substantially. Farm wage rates may continue at or above the present high levels. The Selective Service Program is not expected to affect greatly the farm labor supply.

Refrigerator Cars: The refrigerator car situation has improved appreciably during 1948. The production of new cars is now about equal to the number being retired and the "Turn-around" has improved slightly with the result that greater efficiency in the use of available equipment is being achieved. Shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables in refrigerator cars declined about 10 percent during the first nine months of 1948 compared with 1947 and were about 15 percent less than in 1946 because of increased movement of fruits and vegetables by truck and to some decline in the total volume of shipments. Tight car supply situations may arise periodically owing to exceptionally heavy seasonal movements and weather conditions but in general, it is expected that there will be ample refrigerator cars to move the 1949 production. Supplies of motor trucks are reported as generally ample in most areas and some manufacturers of motor trucks of larger sizes are curtailing production.

Rail Freight Rates: Further rail freight rate increases are likely to depress prices to growers in 1949. Depending upon traffic regions, increases beginning January 1, 1947, have resulted in 38 to 50 percent higher freight rates for fresh vegetables, and 44 to 46 percent higher freight rates for canned vegetables than in 1946. A further increase of 13 percent is now pending. Depending upon traffic regions, this would result in rate rises of 56 to 69 percent for fresh vegetables, and 63 to 76 percent for canned vegetables compared to 1946 rates. The impact of these freight rate increases will be greater on growers further from market.

DEMAND FOR TRUCK CROPS IN 1949

Fresh Vegetables: Demand for fresh vegetables is expected to continue strong throughout most of 1949. No marked reduction in consumer income and the domestic demand for farm products generally is foreseen at this time. There are some uncertainties in respect to the second half of the year when marketings of 1949 crops will be heavy. These uncertainties, which arise principally from the international situation and from three years of continued boom in this country, could develop into a weakening demand for farm products in the latter part of 1949. In such an event and assuming no change in production, it is quite probable that prices for truck crops in the fall of 1949 would be somewhat lower than in the fall of 1948.

Processing Vegetables: Commercial canners and freezers may not try to pack quite as large a total tonnage in 1949 as they did in 1948. In general, no more than normal working stocks are expected to remain in combined packers' and wholesale distributors' hands on carry-over dates at the beginning of the 1949 season. The 1948 pack is expected to move into consumption at prices generally about as high as in the last year or two. In view of the upward trend in per capita consumption of processed vegetables and the anticipated growth in our population, it seems likely that there will be a continuing demand for annual production and

consumption of processed vegetables for many years ahead on a total scale, averaging at least as large as in the last year or two. Whether or not such quantities of processed vegetables will move into consumption readily in 1950-51 at retail prices as high as 1948 is not possible to predict with assurance at this time.

Foreign Trade: Imports of vegetables occur principally in the winter season and from Mexico and Cuba. Shipments of winter vegetables from Mexico to the United States and Canada totaled 222 million pounds during 1947-48 season compared with 265 million pounds during the 1946-47 season. Tomatoes, totaling 199 million pounds, were by far the most important with peppers, totaling 19 million pounds, second in importance.

The decrease in volume shipped during the season just closed is attributed chiefly to heavy freezes in Sonora and Sinaloa during December 1947 and January 1948; also to heavy losses due to over ripened condition of tomatoes at the border during April 1948.

Shipments of all vegetables from Cuba during November 1947 through April 1948 totaled 37.5 million pounds compared with 35.1 million during corresponding period in 1946-47 season. Tomato shipments totaled 29.2 million pounds in the 1947-48 season compared with 26.3 million in 1946-47. Although the 1947-48 shipments were 6 percent larger than those during 1946-47 they were only 45 percent of comparable average prewar exports.

Prospects for Mexico indicate that the acreage of vegetables for the 1948-49 season will not exceed the acreage planted during the season just closed. If about the same acreages are planted and the growing season is favorable, larger than 1947-48 supplies may be available for export.

For Cuba the prospects are that some increase in exportable supplies may be anticipated in 1948-49 over the volume exported in the season just closed.

The principal export market for winter vegetables is Canada. During the 1947-48 season an import embargo, occasioned by an emergency exchange situation, prevented the usual volume moving from the United States to Canada. The embargo was made effective in November 1947, and except for a brief period--February 2 to June 1, 1948, for cabbage and March 15 to June 18, 1948, for topped carrots--none of the winter vegetables produced in the United States could be exported to Canada. The embargo was lifted for cabbage and carrots for the period indicated in order to provide needed supplies for consumption in Canada.

The accompanying table includes information on the volume of some of the important vegetables imported into Canada during the last 2 seasons.

Because of a shortage of late or stored type onions in the United States during the late winter months of 1948, a considerable quantity of foreign produced onions were attracted to United States markets. Imports in the period January to April totaled 420,000 bags of 100 pounds and came largely from Chile, Egypt, Australia, and Mexico. If the 1948 late onion crop in the United States is close to normal or larger, it is not likely that imports in 1948-49 will be appreciable.

Price Support on Vegetables (other than potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry edible beans and peas): Although the U. S. Department of Agriculture is announcing production guides for vegetables, the Department has made no commitment to support the prices of fresh vegetables, and in 1949 no support prices are contemplated for vegetables, either used fresh or for processing.

Growers of vegetables should, before planting time, take reasonable precautions to assure themselves that marketing facilities and outlets will be available to handle the anticipated production.

GENERAL COMMENTS

These acreage guides are developed from commercial truck crop statistics and on the basis of the above demand statement for 1949. The guides are intended

as indicators of the direction and magnitude of acreage changes deemed advisable to provide adequate supplies of vegetables for the nation under average production conditions, but with the view to avoid market gluts that result in unfavorable returns to growers and waste of food. It is assumed that suggested acreage changes will be applied uniformly in each producing area.

Allowance has not been taken for possible unusual weather conditions that may contribute to higher or lower than average yields since these conditions are not predictable. Generally, however, truck crops mature rapidly and unless adverse weather is prolonged or covers a wide area of the nation, such conditions, while affecting seasonal distribution of supplies, result in little effect upon the total national production. Price disparities, under such conditions, usually are of relatively short duration. Higher prices temporarily occurring as a result of poor yields and lower prices resulting from favorable yields tend to offset each other, from both the buyer and seller points of view.

The following statements are intended to serve as a production guide in planning 1949 commercial truck crop acreage. The following factors have been considered in the development of these statements: (a) domestic demand; (b) prospective prices; (c) the outlook for labor, materials, and facilities for production and marketing; (d) foreign trade; (e) production capacity; (f) stocks of canned and frozen vegetables.

IMPORTS OF SPECIFIED VEGETABLES INTO CANADA 1946-47 and 1947-48/1

Month	Beans		Cabbage		Carrots		Celery		Lettuce		Tomatoes	
	1946-47	1947-48	1946-47	1947-48	1946-47	1947-48	1946-47	1947-48	1946-47	1947-48	U. S.	Mexico & Cuba
-----In thousands of pounds-----												
July	110	394	28	282	3593	4647	300	822	10	452	13861	16561
August	4	8	0	9	155	213	6	58	97	11	1566	2542
September	16	1	0	264	0	2	29	80	304	695	1418	15
October	351	133	45	5	45	0	0	47	3854	4752	4591	7136
November	501	358	0	0	161	80	12	304	5771	6031	3841	3976
December	811	0	86	0	775	8	1329	322	7521	954	3150	841
January	951	0	416	0	118	0	4418	0	8131	0	604	0
February	609	0	1612	15829	1738	0	5094	0	6047	0	160	0
March	104	0	7928	13013	9110	3374	6460	53	9519	0	291	0
April	336	0	8169	13929	9648	10193	5497	0	10054	0	138	0
May	840		1464		13416		6092		10245		3884	
June	1150		7333		10740		3895		3686		13204	
Total	3793	894	18284	43331	25343	18517	23145	1686	51308	12895	29610	31071
July-April												21317
Total	5783		27081		49499		33132		65239		46698	25513
July-June			short tons		50 lb. bu.		65 lb. crates		70 lb. crates		-----	53 lb. bushels-----
Total	126433	29800	9142	21666	506860	370340	356077	25938	732971	184214	558679	586245
July-Apr.												402208
Total	192767		13540		989980		509723		931986		881094	481377
July-Jun												

/1 All vegetables from the United States unless otherwise specified.

SPRING VEGETABLES: Acreage Guides for 1949 with Comparisons

Commodity	Acreage /1		Percent Suggested Acreage is of:		Percent Suggested Acreage is of:	
	1949	1948	1942-46	1937-46	1948	1942-46
	Suggested	Prel.	1947	Average	Prel.	Average
			acres		percent	
Beans, lima	6,000	5,200	6,500	7,230	115	83
Beans, snap	57,550	52,800	65,700	60,290	110	96
Beets	1,300	1,080	1,370	1,380	120	94
Cabbage /2	32,000	32,550	33,250	32,110	98	100
Cantaloups	16,000	15,970	21,630	16,120	100	99
Carrots	10,200	8,500	10,400	11,930	120	85
Cauliflower	11,400	12,650	11,550	9,040	90	126
Celery	6,600	7,800	6,300	5,290	85	125
Cucumbers	35,250	35,250	35,850	24,730	100	143
Lettuce	63,640	63,640	58,450	58,900	100	108
Onions	65,750	61,450	55,200	73,100	107	90
Peas, green	16,920	15,820	18,850	28,840	107	59
Peppers, green	5,000	10,000	5,400	3,880	50	129
Shallots	2,000	1,900	2,000	2,240	105	89
Spinach	8,920	8,920	9,430	10,670	100	84
Tomatoes	105,400	109,100	108,350	115,670	97	91
Watermelons	46,250	46,250	51,500	34,120	100	136
Total (17)	490,180	488,880	501,730	495,540	100	99

/1 Acreage available for harvest.

/2 Acreage of cabbage includes some acreage for processing.

FALL VEGETABLES - Acreage Guides for 1949 with Comparisons

Commodity	Acreage /1				Percent Suggested Acreage is Of:			
	1949 Suggested	1948 Prel.	1947 Prel.	Average	1948 Prel.	1947 Average	1942-46 Average	1937-46 Average
Beans, lima	600	600	600	600	100	100	88	83
Beans, snap	41,600	47,800	41,400	40,380	87	100	103	102
Cabbage	53,900	54,900	52,500	57,020	98	103	95	101
Carrots	24,500	28,820	21,310	28,750	85	115	85	105
Cauliflower	6,800	6,800	5,900	6,850	100	115	99	105
Celery	17,640	17,640	19,870	23,010	100	89	77	75
Cucumbers	5,940	6,600	5,550	4,350	90	107	137	148
Lettuce	43,470	45,760	48,700	37,940	95	89	115	122
Peas, green	5,500	5,500	5,900	7,070	100	93	78	54
Peppers, green	5,100	5,100	4,450	4,200	100	115	121	119
Spinach	8,400	8,400	8,100	9,010	100	104	93	90
Tomatoes	40,050	39,150	31,800	30,830	102	126	130	143
Totals (12)	253,500	267,070	246,080	250,090	95	103	101	106

/1 Acreage planted for harvest.

COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING
Acreage Guides for 1949 with Comparisons

Commodity	Acreage /1					Percent Suggested Acreage Is Of:				
	1949	1948	1947	1942-46	1937-41	1948	1942-46	1937-41	1947	1937-41
	Suggested	Prel.		Average	Average	Prel.	Average	Average		Average
	-----acres-----					-----percent-----				
Beans, lima	86,000	90,390	88,460	69,440	61,480	95	124	140	97	161
Beans, snap	104,000	99,000	108,680	148,850	110,540	105	70	94	96	144
Beets	15,000	13,640	10,950	18,900	16,210	110	79	93	137	111
Cabbage for kraut	18,000	19,700	10,150	19,410	20,780	91	93	87	177	81
Corn, sweet	474,600	499,600	545,700	534,020	453,900	95	89	105	87	127
Cucumbers for pickles	122,900	136,590	141,750	119,350	109,020	90	103	113	87	125
Peas, green	412,350	412,350	460,640	490,650	412,660	100	84	100	90	123
Spinach	22,110	22,110	24,990	40,270	31,650	100	55	70	88	96
Tomatoes	446,000	424,810	531,730	600,580	515,030	105	74	87	84	104
Total (%)	1,700,960	1,718,190	1,923,050	2,041,470	1,731,270	99	83	98	88	120

/1 Planted Acreage.

COMMERCIAL TRUCK CROPS FOR PROCESSING
Acreage Guides for 1949 with comparisons.

Tobacco--Non-quota Types 1/

1. Maryland - Requirements during 1949-50 will not be greatly different from annual disappearance of recent years. Production during the 1946-47 and 1947-48 marketing years exceeded disappearance by approximately 15 million pounds resulting in increased stocks. An additional significant increase in supply will result in a surplus situation which may require the proclamation of and a referendum on a marketing quota for the 1950-51 marketing year. Although the outlook is good for continued relatively high level of disappearance, an acreage about 10 percent less than the indicated 47,000 for 1948 appears desirable for 1949.
2. Virginia Sun-cured - Requirements during 1949-50 will not be greatly different from annual disappearance of recent years. This type of tobacco is used principally in chewing tobacco, the outlook for which is relatively unfavorable. Estimated production during 1948 is about 10 percent above estimated disappearance. Stocks are ample and production approximating disappearance is desirable. An acreage about 10 percent less than the indicated 3,400 for 1948 appears desirable for 1949.
3. Cigar filler - Total supply of cigar filler tobacco is slightly more than the supply available a year ago and estimated production for 1948 is in excess of disappearance for the year ended October 1. Under these circumstances, it would perhaps be difficult to justify an expansion in the total acreage of cigar tobacco. However, attention should be called to the fact that there has been a definite downward trend during the past several years in the acreage of filler tobacco grown in Ohio. Present production levels of these types (42-44) are not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the users of these tobaccos. If present production trends are continued, additional users of Ohio filler will have to supplement their requirements from other sources. It also follows that if this downward trend is continued, consideration should be given to an increase in other areas in order to avoid the necessity of further supplementing domestic filler with imported tobaccos.
4. Cigar binder. The total supply of binder tobacco, if judged in relation to disappearance, appears to be adequate. However, attention should be called to the fact that growing and curing conditions prevailing during the past two seasons resulted in a disproportionate quantity of low-grade tobacco. As a result of this situation, there appears to be an oversupply of low-grade binder, commonly referred to as stemming tobacco. As a result of these conditions, the supply of high-quality binders, in relation to the total supply of these types, has not been maintained. Under these circumstances, emphasis should be placed on the production of high-quality binder tobacco. It is felt that the answer to this is not in increasing acres, but rather in selection of proper soil, proper fertilization, adequate housing, and care in curing and preparing tobacco for market.
5. Cigar wrapper - The total supply of wrapper tobacco is slightly in excess of the supply available a year ago. Since there has been no marked increase in the production of cigars, supplies appear to be in line with demand.

1/ Marketing quotas are in effect on the 1949 crop of flue-cured, Burley, fire-cured, and dark air-cured tobacco and consequently no discussion is included for these kinds of tobacco.

ALL TAME HAY

Requirements and Market Outlook: The 1948 tame hay crop was the smallest in recent years, but it was considerably above prewar production. While hay supplies for 1948-49 are below the average of recent years, there has been a relatively greater decline in the number of hay-consuming animals on farms. It is estimated that the number fed during 1948-49 will be somewhat smaller than the wartime record of 1943. The supply of hay per animal unit is near record and appears to be sufficient for most needs.

In recent years there has been a considerable expansion in the acreage of soil-depleting crops in response to war and relief requirements. This has meant a considerable sacrifice of good crop rotations and, in some cases, the breaking of sod lands not suited for crop production over a period of years. New seedings of alfalfa, timothy, and clover must be made from 9 to 15 months before the acreage can be harvested for hay, so the potential acreage of hay for harvest in 1949 was fairly well established in the 1948-crop season. However, a small increase in hay acreage was recommended for 1949. Plantings of lespedeza, sudan grass, common ryegrass, and other annual hay crops, as well as plantings of small grains for hay, can be made in the spring for harvest in 1949. More hay is needed in the South for livestock feed as well as for soil conservation. From a soil maintenance standpoint, the acreage of sod crops should be increased, especially in the Corn Belt. Farmers in the Western States should be encouraged to accumulate some reserves of hay for use in years of short crops.

In all areas, farmers should be encouraged to make additional seedings of grasses and legumes, which will be available for hay or pasture in 1950. State councils should give consideration to local needs for better rotation practices and the restoration of soil fertility. In order to effectively conserve our soil resources, a considerably larger proportion of the total cropland should be put in sod crops. Plantings should be made in 1949 which will help accomplish this objective. The 1949 production goals for most of the grass and legume seeds are considerably above the production of recent years. If these seed goals are achieved, more seed will be available for increased seedings of sod crops in 1950 and 1951, but every effort will be required to achieve the goals for a number of the grass and legume seeds.

With average yields, hay production from the acreage goal should total about 86 million tons. While this is about the same as the 1948 production, it is below the 1942-46 average production. If the goal is achieved, ample hay should be available for livestock feed; seed production would be encouraged; and some increase would be made in the acreage of soil-conserving crops.

Production Goals: A goal of 62,032,000 harvested acres is established for 1949. This is only slightly smaller than the 1942-46 harvested acreage, but it is about 3.4 million acres greater than the 1948 indicated acreage. State goals are shown in the attached table.

Labor and Production Supplies: Adequate labor, machinery, baling wire, and other supplies should be available for producing the 1949 crop.

TAME HAY: State Goals for 1949

	1949 Goal	Harvested Acreage 1/	% Acreage Goal is of					
State:	Production:	Acreage	1948	1937-41	1942-46	1948	1937-41	1942-46
:	(Tons)	(Harvested):	Average:	Average:	Average:	Average:	Average:	Average:
	T h o u s a n d s				P e r c e n t			
Maine	840	900	879	893	900	102	101	100
N. H.	430	385	371	338	381	104	114	101
Vt.	1,400	1,075	1,047	889	1,018	103	121	106
Mass.	565	385	372	348	379	103	111	102
R. I.	50	37	36	35	37	103	106	100
Conn.	430	300	295	272	300	102	110	100
N. Y.	5,490	3,950	3,922	3,853	4,000	101	103	99
N. J.	430	275	246	224	271	112	123	101
Penna.	3,475	2,535	2,348	2,281	2,516	108	111	101
Ohio	3,630	2,575	2,448	2,431	2,576	105	106	100
Ind.	2,310	1,750	1,675	1,943	1,908	104	95	97
Ill.	3,510	2,600	2,376	2,764	2,803	109	94	93
Mich.	3,865	2,800	2,632	2,606	2,784	106	106	101
Wisc.	6,925	4,000	3,918	3,735	4,002	102	108	101
Minn.	4,430	2,750	2,521	2,991	3,020	109	92	91
Iowa	5,115	3,300	2,874	3,386	3,339	115	97	99
Mo.	3,870	3,550	3,475	2,811	3,579	102	126	99
N. D.	880	800	732	1,086	803	109	74	100
S. D.	925	850	627	787	608	136	108	140
Nebr.	1,985	1,350	1,260	994	1,105	107	136	122
Kans.	2,065	1,250	1,316	725	1,215	95	172	103
Del.	100	75	72	68	77	104	110	97
Md.	570	450	463	401	454	97	112	99
Va.	1,515	1,400	1,414	1,191	1,398	99	118	100
W. Va.	940	825	802	683	823	103	121	100
N. Car.	1,250	1,300	1,230	1,091	1,291	106	119	101
S. Car.	410	550	500	576	597	110	95	92
Ga.	855	1,550	1,400	1,174	1,497	111	132	104
Fla.	75	130	127	105	124	102	124	105
Ky.	2,145	1,800	1,712	1,475	1,821	105	122	99
Tenn.	2,015	1,850	1,742	1,871	1,909	106	99	97
Ala.	700	950	870	942	1,104	109	101	86
Miss.	980	825	761	830	909	108	99	91
Ark.	1,310	1,200	1,153	1,115	1,225	104	108	98
La.	490	400	324	301	334	123	133	120
Okla.	1,350	1,100	1,037	751	882	106	146	125
Texas	1,235	1,300	1,330	1,109	1,398	98	117	93
Mont.	2,195	1,600	1,506	1,087	1,402	106	147	114
Idaho	2,125	975	932	1,013	1,040	105	96	94
Wyo.	890	650	591	570	619	110	114	105
Colo.	1,710	1,000	949	1,015	984	105	99	102
N. Mex.	315	225	196	179	207	115	126	109
Ariz.	590	260	226	227	293	115	115	89
Utah	1,060	500	442	496	489	113	101	102
Nev.	355	175	171	183	166	102	96	105
Wash.	1,640	850	784	873	910	108	97	93
Oreg.	1,515	800	788	858	853	102	93	94
Calif.	5,490	1,875	1,777	1,651	1,855	106	114	101
U. S.	86,445	62,032	58,669	2/57,849	62,056	106	107	100

1/ Difference between harvested acreage for all hay and wild hay. Beginning in 1939 estimates of wild hay for 22 States only.

2/ Includes some unrevised data.

WINTER COVER CROP SEEDS

Requirements and Market Outlook: Production of winter cover crop seeds has fallen short of the goals established for the past several years and it appears that again the 1948 crop will not adequately provide for domestic requirements and exports. It is highly desirable to increase production at this time in order to restore the fertility of soils which have been heavily cropped to meet war and relief needs for food and fibre. Larger seed crops are also needed to meet the export demand which in recent years has been only partially filled, and to provide for a normal carry-over.

With the exception of the ryegrasses, stocks of cover crop seeds have been at a very low level during the past few years. Supplies of common ryegrass seed, which appeared larger than requirements, were needed to offset the small 1948 harvest. Because of smaller than usual crops of Kentucky bluegrass and red top, more ryegrass may be used for seeding lawns.

In the case of cover crop seeds such as rough peas, purple vetch, and Hungarian vetch, which are used in the areas of production, State councils were asked to give consideration to local requirements and to make recommendations for sufficient production to meet local demand.

Production Goals: The goals announced for 1949 are shown in the table on the following page.

Labor and Production Supplies: In the principal producing areas, labor and production supplies should be adequate to meet the goals.

Marketing Facilities: Plants and equipment for processing and cleaning are generally adequate in the older producing areas. Provisions will need to be made for sufficient processing equipment in Texas for hairy vetch if a larger crop is produced there. Additional drying equipment may be needed for the blue lupine area of production.

Support Prices: A 1949 winter cover crop seed price support program has been announced. Under the program, Commodity Credit Corporation offers to purchase seed delivered by producers under purchase agreements. Support prices are at levels which should encourage increased seed production.

Winter Cover Crop Seed
Harvested Acreage and Production Goals with Comparisons

Type of Seed	1949 Goal	Acreage (Harvested)	1949 Goal is of:	Percent
and State	Production	Harvested	Average	Average
	Pounds	vested	1948	1948
	Thousands			Percent

Austrian WinterPeas:

California	1,200	3.0	1.5	1/2.7	8.9	200	111	34
Idaho	46,800	39.0	27.0	2/3.4	19.7	144	1,147	198
Oregon	20,000	20.0	19.0	40.9	39.9	105	49	50
Washington	5,000	5.0	4.5	1/.6	13.4	111	833	37
U.S.	73,000	67.0	52.0	3/4.5	83.5	129	151	80
1/ 3-yr. average		2/2-yr. average	N.D.	.5	3/ average of 5 yr. totals			

Crimson Clover:

Alabama	3,000	12.0	7.1	1/2.9	7.6	169	414	158
Georgia	3,600	16.0	13.0	1/2.7	5.0	123	593	320
Kentucky	1,400	6.0	2.8	1/2.1	4.4	214	286	136
N. Carolina	400	2.0	-	1/1.1	1.1	-	182	182
Oregon	500	2.0	2.0	2/2.2	3.7	100	91	54
Tennessee	13,500	60.0	34.0	2/16.9	38.0	176	355	158
Other States	2,100	4/ 8.0	-	-	-	-	119	-
U.S.	24,500	106.0	58.9	3/25.8	59.7	180	411	179
1/ 3-yr. average		2/ 4-yr. average	3/ average of 4-yr totals	4/ Ark.				
2.0; Miss. 2.0; Va. 3.0; Delaware 1.0								

Hairy Vetch:

Arkansas	4,500	24.0	17.0	1/4.3	9.6	141	558	250
Michigan	400	2.0	-	2.0	1.9	-	100	105
Oregon	15,000	70.0	48.0	59.7	72.4	146	117	97
Texas	6,700	21.0	22.0	-	3/ 6.0	95	-	-
Washington	400	2.0	1.5	1/3.3	2.0	133	61	100
Other States	3,000	4/10.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
U.S.	30,000	129.0	88.5	2/66.3	87.1	146	195	148
1/ 3-yr. average		2/ average of 5-yr. totals	3/ 1-yr.	4/ Ala. 2.0;				
Ky. 1.0; Miss. 2.0; N. Carolina 1.0; Okla. 2.0; Tenn. 2.0								

Common and Wil-lamette Vetch:

California	-	-	1/ 3.0	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon	40,350	85.0	54.0	23.5	73.6	157	362	115
Washington	3,000	4.0	1.6	2/ 5.0	3.6	250	80	111
U.S.	43,350	89.0	58.6	3/26.5	77.2	152	336	115
1/No estimates prior to 1948. 2/ 3-yr. average. 3/average of 5-yr totals.								

Common Ryegrass:

Oregon	40,000	90.0	76.0	50.6	78.8	118	178	114
Other States	3,000	1/ 8.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
U.S.	43,000	98.0	76.0	50.6	78.8	129	194	124
1/ Ky. 1.0; Okla. 1.0; Tenn. 1.0; Texas 1.0; Miss. 1.0; La. 1.0; Ala. 1.0; Ga. 1.0								

Blue Lupine 1/

Alabama	14,000	15.0	5.0	-	2/ 4.1	300	-	366
Florida	8,400	12.0	10.0	-	2/ 4.1	120	-	293
Georgia	27,600	30.0	23.0	-	2/ 8.3	130	-	361
U.S.	50,000	57.0	38.0	-	2/16.4	150	-	348

1/ estimates began in 1943 2/ 4-year average.

All U. S. averages are of 5-year totals.

LEGUME AND GRASS SEED

Requirements and Market Outlook: While the harvest of most hay and pasture seeds was fairly adequate in 1947, production fell to rather low levels in 1948. Supplies of grass seeds are considerably below requirements and stocks of both grass and legume seeds are likely to be materially below normal at the end of the 1948-49 season. The change from soil-depleting to soil-building crops is likely to be delayed until larger seed supplies become available.

The 1948 production goals established for several of the legume and grass seeds were not achieved, due to the shortage of hay and unfavorable weather in many of the producing areas. The 1948 production of alfalfa seed is relatively small and prices have risen sharply. The anticipated heavy carry-over of alfalfa seed from the 1947 crop did not materialize. The demand for alfalfa seed was above average because of the short supplies and resulting high prices of red clover seed.

Unfavorable weather for the production of legume and grass seeds in several European countries has resulted in supplies below normal and European buyers have been seeking needed supplies of timothy, redtop, Kentucky bluegrass, alsike and white clover, and vetch seeds in the United States and Canada, even though prices are relatively high.

With average yields, the acreage goals for 1949 should provide supplies of most legume and grass seeds considerably greater than the 1948 harvest. Production will depend upon the weather both at planting time and during the setting and harvesting of the various seed crops. It is believed that supplies of hay are again at normal levels and are unlikely to affect materially the acreages harvested for seed in 1949. With seed prices more nearly in line with prices of competing crops, there should be more incentive for seed production in 1949.

Carryover stocks of adapted legume and grass seeds must be built up if the Department's conservation programs are to be planned most effectively. A larger and more stable supply of seed is needed for reseeding range land and permanent pasture, for increasing hay crops, for green manure and cover crops, and for other conservation practices.

Alfalfa: According to the December 17 crop report, the 1948 crop of alfalfa seed is approximately 48 million pounds of clean seed, the smallest crop since 1942, and about 20 percent below the 1942-46 average. However, current supplies of alfalfa seed in the United States, including 1948 production and carry-over, total about 64 million pounds of clean seed, which is only 6 percent below the 1942-46 average. Also, the Canadian crop has been forecast at 16.5 million pounds of clean seed compared with the 1937-47 average of 6.8 million pounds. The United States is the principal market for the Canadian crop. The acreage goal for 1949 is 96 percent larger than the 1948 acreage with the increase proportionately greater in the northern States.

Red Clover: Unfavorable weather in many producing areas materially reduced red clover seed production in 1948. Although production is above the very short 1947 crop, it will not provide for large exports over and above domestic requirements and needed operating stocks. A material increase in harvested acreage is recommended for 1949.

Alsike Clover: The production of alsike clover seed has increased considerably in the past few years and present stocks are the largest since 1942. However, a large carryover is not expected because alsike clover can be substituted for scarce and high priced legume seeds, and there is a good export demand.

Ladino Clover: The 1948 production of ladino clover seed is the largest on record. However, there is a strong upward trend in domestic disappearance and further expansion in acreage seems justified.

White Clover: The production of white clover seed has been at a relatively high level since 1946. However, there is little likelihood of a surplus at the end of the current season because of the heavy domestic and export demand. The acreage goal for 1949 is smaller than the large 1948 harvested acreage.

Sweet Clover: Both supplies and production of this seed have been at low levels for several years. The acreage goal for 1949 is almost double the 1948 acreage but it is considerably below the 1937-41 average. Until production is increased, the United States will continue to be dependent upon Canada for an appreciable portion of planting requirements.

Lespedeza: The 1948 crop of lespedeza, because of record yields on a large acreage, is the second largest on record. However, the carryover is small and total supplies of clean seed are only about 13 percent above average. There has been an upward trend in domestic disappearance for a number of years, and the acreage goal for 1949 is 33 percent greater than the 1948 harvested acreage.

Timothy: The very short 1948 crop and heavy exports reduced domestic supplies of this seed to a low level. Increased production is needed to restore depleted stocks. The goal is more than double the 1948 acreage.

Sudan Grass: Production of Sudan grass seed this year was about the same as in 1946 and 1947, but materially below pre-war levels. The acreage goal for 1949 is more than double the 1948 acreage, but only about 25 percent greater than the 1942-46 average.

Orchard Grass: Stocks and production of orchard grass seed appeared rather large at the beginning of this season. However, the short crop in Denmark and the small carryover there and in England are expected to stimulate exports from the U. S. What appeared at one time to be a surplus is finding a ready market overseas. However, the export demand is not expected to continue and the 1949 acreage goal is about 25 percent smaller than the 1948 harvested acreage.

Redtop: The very short 1948 crop of redtop and small carryover have resulted in supplies far below normal domestic requirements. However, the present high level of prices for this seed will, no doubt, curtail both domestic and export takings. The acreage goal for 1949 is 23 percent above the 1942-46 average. Because of high prices, this goal might be exceeded.

Bromegrass: The goal is more than double the 1948 acreage. Imports from Canada have been at a fairly high level, and domestic production augmented by these imports has provided an adequate supply.

Meadow Fescue: The goal for meadow fescue seed is 140 percent of the 1948 production and 85 percent of the 1942-46 average. However, it appears adequate because of the large stocks carried over on July 1, 1948. Although supplies in Europe are rather large, more than a normal amount of meadow fescue seed is likely to be used in place of other high-priced seeds.

Kentucky Bluegrass: A substantial increase in the production of Kentucky bluegrass seed is needed. The 1948 crop was very short and the carryover, although much larger than last year, is below average.

Crested Wheat Grass: The 1948 production of crested wheat grass is far below the average of recent years. The acreage goal for 1949 should, with average yields, be adequate for normal reseeding requirements in the Great Plains.

Other Seeds: Recommendations covering other legume and grass seeds, which are important in certain areas, should be determined in the light of local conditions.

Labor and Production Supplies: Labor, machinery, and supplies needed in the production of seeds should be adequate in 1949.

Marketing Facilities: Existing processing and cleaning facilities are adequate to handle seeds in 1949. Transportation may present some problem despite the fact that seeds require a very small part of available facilities.

Support Prices: A price support program is available on 1949-crop hay and pasture seeds which should encourage greater production.

Legume and Grass Seed: Goals for 1949

Kind of Seed	: 1949 Goals : :Production:Acrcage : :(pounds) :for Harv.:	:Acrcage Harvested : :1948:1937-41:1942-46:1948:1937-41:1942-46 :Average:Average:Ind.:Average:Average
- - - - Thousands - - - - -		
Alfalfa:		
Northern	37,895 743	342.1 526.0 470.3 217 141 158
Central	27,750 370	201.0 230.9 333.0 184 160 111
Southern	13,410 90	71.0 70.7 78.5 127 127 115
Total	79,055 1,203	614.1 826.7 881.8 196 146 136
Clover:		
Red	100,000 2,600	1,830.5 1,349.8 1,942.0 142 193 134
Alsike	20,000 180	139.8 149.3 129.7 129 121 139
Ladino	2,500 37	19.4 4.5 10.7 191 822 346
Sweet	40,870 335	188.2 417.7 232.5 178 80 144
White	3,000 30	32.0 10.9 23.4 94 275 128
Lespedeza	200,000 1,300	974.8 696.4 921.8 133 187 141
Timothy	55,000 350	131.7 459.5 392.1 266 76 89
Sudan Grass	39,340 119	58.7 179.8 195.8 203 66 124
Orchard Grass	3,000 24	32.6 30.3 48.4 74 79 50
Redtop	22,000 300	96.0 290.3 ^{1/} 243.2 312 103 123
Bromegrass	15,000 77	36.6 -- 54.9 210 -- 140
Wheatgrass crested	10,000 100	26.1 -- 81.2 383 -- 123
Ky. Bluegrass ^{2/}	24,000 --	14,239.0 22,366.0 15,194.0 169 112 165
Meadow Fescue ^{2/}	1,150 --	820.0 645.0 1,346.0 140 178 85

^{1/} 1939-41 Average.

^{2/} Acreage figures not available - quantities given are production in thousands of pounds.

LEGUME AND GRASS SEEDS:

State Goals for 1949

State	:	Alfalfa	:	Clover			:	Lespedeza	:	Grass	
				Red	Alsiko	Sweet				Timothy	Sudan
Thousand Acres Harvested											
New York	:		:	15	:	2	:		:		:
Pennsylvania	:		:	40	:		:		:	5	:
Ohio	:	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	300	:	20	:	20	:	45	:
Indiana	:	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	340	:	5	:	10	:	35	:
Illinois	:		:	400	:	10	:	30	:	25	:
Michigan	:	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	200	:	15	:	5	:		:
Wisconsin	:	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	300	:	20	:	10	:		:
Minnesota	:	120 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	145	:	60	:	75	:		:
Iowa	:	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	400	:	5	:	10	:		:
Missouri	:		:	200	:		:	15	:	340	:
S. Dakota	:	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	:		:		:	20	:		:
Nebraska	:	190 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	30	:		:	30	:		:
										6	
Maryland	:		:	25	:		:		:		:
Virginia	:		:	20	:		:		:	40	:
N. Carolina	:		:		:		:		:	215	:
Kentucky	:		:	35	:		:		:	100	:
Tennessee	:		:		:		:		:	165	:
S. Carolina	:		:		:		:		:	100	:
Georgia	:		:		:		:		:	90	:
Alabama	:		:		:		:		:	15	:
Mississippi	:		:		:		:		:	30	:
Arkansas	:		:		:		:		:	30	:
Louisiana	:		:		:		:		:	15	:
Oklahoma	:	100 $\frac{2}{3}$	:		:		:		:	20	:
Texas	:	20 $\frac{3}{4}$:		:		:		:		:
											10
											50
N. Dakota	:	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	:		:		:	15	:		:
Kansas	:	200 $\frac{2}{3}$	:	70	:		:	65	:	80	:
Montana	:	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	:		:		:	10	:		:
Idaho	:	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	50	:	18	:		:		:
Wyoming	:	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	:		:		:	5	:		:
Colorado	:	25 $\frac{2}{3}$	:		:		:	15	:		:
New Mexico	:	10 $\frac{3}{4}$:		:		:		:		:
Arizona	:	35 $\frac{3}{4}$:		:		:		:		:
Utah	:	45 $\frac{2}{3}$:		:		:		:		:
Washington	:	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	5	:		:		:		:
Oregon	:	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	:	25	:	20	:		:		:
California	:	25 $\frac{3}{4}$	:		:	5	:		:		:
											2
											6
U. S.		1,203		2,600		180		335		1,300	
										350	
											119

Goals for other seed: Ladino Clover: California 12; Oregon 10; Idaho 5; Utah 6; Montana 2; Tennessee 1; Wisconsin 1; U. S. 37.

Orchard Grass: Missouri 3; Kentucky 13; Virginia 8; U. S. 24.

Redtop: Illinois 240; Missouri 60; U. S. 300.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ Included in Northern alfalfa seed goal.
 $\frac{2}{3}$ Included in Central alfalfa seed goal.
 $\frac{3}{4}$ Included in Southern alfalfa seed goal.

DAIRY

Requirements and Market Outlook: The prospective demand and nutritional importance of milk and its products suggest a milk production goal of at least 120 billion pounds in 1949. This is based on the expectation that economic activity, employment and wages will continue at near the 1948 level.

Domestic demand will continue to represent the principal market for the American dairy farmer, inasmuch as exports probably will be little if any greater in 1949 than in 1948 when they were equivalent to about 2 percent of the milk production. Exports in late 1949 will be influenced by any additional appropriations in connection with U. S. financial assistance to foreign countries beyond June 30, 1949.

Production Adjustments: Milk production in 1948 of about 115.5 billion pounds was the lowest since 1941. It was 3 percent less than both the 1942-47 average and the 1947 production of 119 billion pounds, and 3.5 percent below the recommended goal of 120 billion pounds for 1948. The percentage decrease in number of milk cows was slightly greater than the percentage decrease in total milk production. Milk production per cow was an all-time high at slightly above the 1947 level, despite the short supply of corn available from the 1947 crop.

There is reasonable prospect for a further increase in production per cow and for some increase in total milk production in 1949 over 1948, if the 1949 pasture and other feed production conditions are average or better. Prospective favorable meat animal prices, short hay supplies in several States, and labor involved in dairy farming, likely will encourage continued close culling of milk cows which probably will offset the additions of heifers to milking herds. Accordingly, little change in the total number of milk cows may be expected in 1949. On the other hand, liberal feed supplies for the first 6 to 9 months of 1949 already are assured. The large 1948 crops provide a record supply of feed grain and other concentrates per animal through at least the first nine months of 1949. The large carry-over stocks from the 1947 hay crop plus the 1948 crop provide liberal supplies of hay in most areas. The short hay crop in some localities of the important dairy States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois will be supplemented to some extent by supplies shipped from other sources during the first half of 1949.

Production Goal: The goal for 1949 milk production on farms is 120 billion pounds. This is the same as that for 1948 and substantially the same as for 1947. The 1949 goal would represent an increase of 3 percent over 1948 production. The proposed 1949 goal would represent a per capita production of 810 pounds. This would be more than the per capita production in 1948 but less than in any other year since 1938 and about equal to the 1924-41 prewar average. However, there has been an extensive shift from farm-separated cream to whole-milk sales by farmers since 1940. With milk production equal to the goal, per capita consumption of milk and its products containing nonfat solids would continue to be much greater than before the war. While a larger increase in milk production might be considered desirable from the standpoint of the prospective high consumer demand and the nutritional importance of milk and its products, the recommended 1949 goal appears to be a reasonable level of achievement in view of the prospective production conditions. On the favorable side will be the large feed supply. However, the reduced size of the national dairy herd and the relatively favorable alternative livestock enterprises will be limiting factors. The goal should be interpreted as suggesting that milk production be increased on all farms in all localities to the extent that production conditions permit.

Labor and Production Supplies: The supply of farm labor is likely to be about the same in 1949 as in 1948 with farm wages as high or higher but more labor saving machinery is expected to be available. While there will be shortages of some legume and grass seeds, larger supplies of fertilizers are in prospect to aid crop production and pasture improvement.

Market Facilities: Processing and marketing facilities will not be a limiting factor on milk production in 1949.

Price Support: The U.S. average price of milk for 1948 approximated \$4.90 per 100 pounds, compared with \$4.25 for 1947. Stronger domestic demand and slightly smaller milk production accounted for the price increase. As of late 1948 there were no indications that demand would decline significantly in 1949. Unless there is a substantial downturn in economic activity, employment and general price level, 1949 prices of milk appear likely to average close to the 1948 level. The provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1948 require that prices to producers for milk and butterfat be supported at 90 percent of parity in 1949. For the year 1948, the U. S. average price of milk to producers averaged about 121 percent of parity, and no price-support activities were necessary. In view of the prospective demand and price conditions, extensive dairy price supports probably will not be necessary in 1949. Inasmuch as it is inadvisable to announce specific dairy price supports substantially below prospective market price levels, it is recommended that price-support statements in connection with the 1949 milk production goal be limited to citation of the provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1948.

Recommendations for Goal Achievement: The major factors governing milk production in 1949 are number of milk cows, feed supplies, labor conditions and other production facilities as well as the prices of milk and butterfat. To a large degree, these factors either are already determined or will be subject to weather and other conditions beyond the control of the farmers but many farmers can adopt practices that would improve their returns and at the same time would increase milk production. The recommended program for goal achievement in 1949 is the dissemination of information concerning available feed grain supplies and market outlook and the continuation of educational activities to encourage the adoption of efficient dairy farming practices which will tend to conserve the soils, improve net returns and increase milk production. This includes the Department's present long-range dairy program of encouraging improvement of supplies and quality of pasture and other roughage crops, grain feeding of individual cows in accordance with milk production results, and other practices.

DAIRY: Milk cows, production per cow, and total and per capita milk production on farms, annually 1924 to 1948, with 1937-41 and 1924-41 averages

Year	:Av. no. milk cows: : on farms during : year	:Average milk: : production : per cow	Total milk production	: Per capita milk production
	: (Thousands)	: (Pounds)	: (Mil. lb.)	: (Pounds)
1924	21,417	4,167	89,240	782
1925	21,503	4,218	90,699	783
1926	21,312	4,379	93,325	795
1927	21,191	4,491	95,172	800
1928	21,223	4,516	95,843	795
1929	21,618	4,579	98,988	813
1930	22,218	4,508	100,158	814
1931	23,108	4,459	103,029	831
1932	24,105	4,307	103,810	832
1933	25,062	4,180	104,762	834
1934	25,198	4,033	101,621	804
1935	24,187	4,184	101,205	795
1936	23,727	4,316	102,410	800
1937	23,340	4,366	101,908	791
1938	23,215	4,558	105,807	815
1939	23,273	4,589	106,792	816
1940	23,677	4,625	109,502	830
1941	24,312	4,741	115,268	865
1942	25,081	4,740	118,884	883
1943	25,574	4,606	117,785	863
1944	25,775	4,578	117,992	855
1945	25,329	4,797	121,504	870
1946	24,475	4,891	119,713	848
1947	23,625	4,997	119,065	827
1948 1/	22,935	5,036	115,511	788
1937-41 Av.		4,576		823
1924-41 Av.		4,401		811

1/ Preliminary.

DAIRY: Number of milk cows and heifers on farms January 1

Year (January 1)	Milk cows	Heifers 1 to 2 years old	Heifer calves under 1 yr.	Heifers per 100 cows	Heifer calves per 100 cows	Cows and heifers eliminated in year 3/	Elimination during year per 100 cows on hand Jan. 1
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(Number)	(Number)	(1,000)	(Number)
1920-34 Av.	:23,050	: 4,492	: 4,773	: 19.5	: 20.7	: 4,184	: 18.1
1937-41 Av.	:24,822	: 5,206	: 5,786	: 21.0	: 23.3	: 4,873	: 19.6
1940	:24,940	: 5,525	: 5,967	: 22.2	: 23.9	: 5,012	: 20.1
1941	:25,453	: 5,676	: 6,254	: 22.3	: 24.6	: 4,816	: 18.9
1942	:26,313	: 5,889	: 6,635	: 22.4	: 23.2	: 5,064	: 19.2
1943	:27,138	: 6,067	: 7,035	: 22.4	: 25.9	: 5,501	: 20.3
1944	:27,704	: 6,352	: 7,201	: 22.9	: 26.0	: 6,286	: 22.7
1945	:27,770	: 6,307	: 6,772	: 22.7	: 24.4	: 7,382	: 23.6
1946	:26,695	: 5,803	: 6,595	: 21.7	: 24.7	: 6,400	: 24.0
1947	:26,098	: 5,602	: 6,768	: 21.5	: 25.9	: 6,535	: 25.0
1948 4/	:25,165	: 5,685	: 6,485	: 22.6	: 25.8	:	:

1/ Cows and heifers 2 years old and over kept for milk January 1. 2/ Being kept for milk cows January 1. 3/ Number eliminated equals number of cows first of the year plus number of heifers 1 to 2 years old minus number of cows at the first of the following year. The number eliminated includes death losses, slaughter, culling, and the net shift in "kept for milk" to beef classification. 4/ Preliminary.

DAIRY: Heifers and heifer calves kept for milk cows per
100 milk cows on hand January 1, by regions, 1937-
1941 average, and 1942-48

January 1	: North : Atlantic	: East : North : Central	: West : North : Central	: South : Atlantic	: South : Central	: : : Western	: United : States
	Heifers 1 to 2 years of age						
1937-41	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Av.	: 19.8	: 20.6	: 20.4	: 21.0	: 21.7	: 23.4	: 21.0
1942	: 20.5	: 22.6	: 22.2	: 22.1	: 22.6	: 24.7	: 22.4
1943	: 20.1	: 22.1	: 22.5	: 21.8	: 22.7	: 25.0	: 22.4
1944	: 20.7	: 22.7	: 23.0	: 22.8	: 23.7	: 25.6	: 22.9
1945	: 21.3	: 22.7	: 22.8	: 22.7	: 22.5	: 25.1	: 22.7
1946	: 20.4	: 21.5	: 22.6	: 21.0	: 21.0	: 24.3	: 21.7
1947	: 20.0	: 21.3	: 21.9	: 20.5	: 21.5	: 23.6	: 21.5
1948	: 21.1	: 23.1	: 23.1	: 21.9	: 21.8	: 24.5	: 22.6
	Heifer calves under 1 year						
1937-41	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Av.	: 20.9	: 23.2	: 22.6	: 23.2	: 24.5	: 26.3	: 23.3
1942	: 21.2	: 25.5	: 25.4	: 24.3	: 25.8	: 28.7	: 23.2
1943	: 22.3	: 24.9	: 26.1	: 25.8	: 27.6	: 29.1	: 25.9
1944	: 21.2	: 24.7	: 26.1	: 26.2	: 27.3	: 30.3	: 26.0
1945	: 20.6	: 22.9	: 25.1	: 24.0	: 26.0	: 28.2	: 24.4
1946	: 20.4	: 23.2	: 25.0	: 24.6	: 27.0	: 28.9	: 24.7
1947	: 21.5	: 24.5	: 26.5	: 26.8	: 28.3	: 29.0	: 25.9
1948	: 21.8	: 23.4	: 27.0	: 25.8	: 28.6	: 29.4	: 25.8

CHICKENS AND TURKEYS TO BE RAISED

SUMMARY

Goals: A goal of 700 million young chickens to be raised for flock replacement purposes was announced for the spring of 1949. The achievement of this goal will require the raising of 10 percent more young chickens than were raised in 1948.

The goal is based upon an estimate of the nation's egg requirements for the calendar year 1950 and is intended to provide 273 million pullets for laying purposes in that year. These pullets, together with about 132 million hens that are expected to be carried over, will total 405 million potential layers on hand January 1, 1950. With an average production of 134 eggs per hen housed, a laying flock of this size will provide at least 370 eggs per person during 1950, and meet other anticipated requirements.

In addition to meeting egg requirements the goal of 700 million young chickens raised in 1949 will provide about 18 pounds of meat per person. In order to provide consumers with 23.5 pounds of chicken per person, commercial broiler producers can maintain production at the 1948 level during the first 6 or 8 months of the year. For the balance of the year, broiler production will probably need to decline because of the expected heavy marketings of farm raised chickens.

A goal of 35.1 million turkeys to be raised in 1949 was announced. This number will supply consumers with approximately 4 pounds of turkey per person.

REQUIREMENTS AND MARKET OUTLOOK

Although there are many uncertainties which make an accurate appraisal of the demand and requirements for 1949 and 1950 difficult at this time, it appears that total economic activity for 1949 will approximate that of 1948. Economic activity in 1950 will probably not exceed the levels in 1948 and 1949. In fact it is possible, that world conditions could change in such a way as to result in a reduction in the level of economic activity during 1950. If such a reduction should occur, the demand for farm products in 1950 will be reduced below 1948-49 levels.

When economic activity declines, farm prices of food and other agricultural products usually decline more rapidly than do prices of industrial products and processed agricultural products. Therefore, if there is a decline in economic activity, prices received by farmers in 1950 may be lower in relation to parity than they were in 1949.

Poultry: Poultrymen have expressed particular interest in the future outlook for meat supplies. During 1949 it is estimated that there will be 142 pounds of meat per person available for consumption. This is slightly less than the per capita consumption of 145 pounds in 1948, and 150 pounds in 1947. Supplies of beef, veal, lamb and mutton especially, will be short. Beginning in October, however, it is likely that hog marketings will increase substantially above the 1948 level and pork supplies should be larger after that time.

While this reduced supply of red meat expected in 1949 would, on the surface, indicate a stronger demand for poultry, experience during the last two years has indicated that there has been very little substitution of chicken or turkey for the relatively scarce red meats.

The 1935-39 relationship between retail prices of red meats and chicken was for a pound of chicken to sell for approximately one-sixth more than a pound of beef or pork. For the last year and a half, however, the retail price of a pound of chicken has been some 5 percent below a pound of beef or pork. Poultry meat consumption since pre-war has advanced slightly more than has the consumption of

red meats, but as illustrated above, this is partly due to the much lower price advances for poultry meat than for red meats. Since the reduced supplies of red meats are not expected to increase the demand for poultry materially, it appears that consumer demand for chicken and turkey meat in 1949 will remain at about the same level as in 1948. The demand for all classes of poultry for storage purposes in the fall of 1949, however, may not be very active due to the increasing meat supplies expected to occur at that time.

Eggs: In announcing the goals for chickens to be raised in 1949 consideration must be given to the demand for eggs in 1950.

During the period, 1945 to 1949, the per capita consumption of eggs is expected to average about 380 eggs per person. This rate of consumption is nearly 28 percent larger than the average per capita consumption during the pre-war years, 1935-39. The increase has been brought about by the very high rate of employment and income, the scarcity of many of the durable and semi-durable goods, and the scarcity of meats in relation to consumer income.

The demand for eggs depends primarily on the level of consumer purchasing power, but it is affected to some extent by the desire of consumers to substitute eggs for other protein foods, particularly red meats, when in short supply. Insofar as the level of consumer purchasing power in 1950 is concerned, only a slight decline in the demand for eggs is anticipated. Foreign demand for eggs is likely to be of little significance in 1950. Since some increase in red meat supplies is in prospect for 1950, such demand as may have existed for eggs as a meat substitute may disappear by that time. Thus, the total demand for eggs in 1950 may be reduced somewhat below 1949 levels. Requirements for eggs in 1950 as compared with 1949 are as follows:

	<u>Million Dozen</u>	
	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Civilian	4,660	4,579
Military	200	200
Net Exports	25	25
Hatch	175	160
Change in Stocks	0	0
Total (farm and non-farm)	5,060	4,964
Total (farm production only)	4,600	4,513
Per capita consumption (eggs)	380	370

It is the announced intention of the Department of Agriculture to encourage the production of an abundant supply of food. For this reason, the goal for chickens to be raised in 1949 is set at a level which will provide at least 370 eggs per capita during 1950, even though the possibility exists that this rate of consumption may be slightly in excess of demand. This level of consumption will exceed pre-war consumption (1935-1939) by more than 24 percent.

COMPUTATION OF GOAL - YOUNG CHICKENS

In 1947 the rate of lay per hen housed was 127. In 1948 the rate is expected to increase slightly, and during 1949 it is expected to average at least 130 eggs per hen housed. With continued improvement in, and the increased use of commercial poultry feeds, the continued improvement in the breeding and management of laying flocks, and a continuation of the trend to a higher proportion of pullets in the laying flock, the rate of lay during 1950 can be expected to increase to 134 eggs per hen housed. At this rate of production, approximately 405 million layers on farms January 1, 1950, would be required to provide the necessary farm production of 4,513 million dozen.

If the rate of production is to average 134 eggs per potential layer on farms January 1, 1950, it will be necessary to take proper steps to see that the laying flock on that date is able to produce at a high rate. This means that it must

include a relatively large proportion of pullets and that the best possible poultry management practices must be carried out.

In determining the goal of 700 million young chickens to be raised, consideration has been given to the composition of farm flocks (the number of hens vs. the number of pullets) as well as to the desirable distribution of potential layers, by regions.

For the nation as a whole at least 67 percent of the potential layers on farms should be pullets and the remaining 33 percent of the laying flock should be hens. In terms of numbers this means that there should be at least 273 million pullets and 132 million hens on farms January 1. In order to secure 273 million pullets, it will be necessary to raise 700 million chickens.

If this composition of farm flocks on January 1, 1950, is realized the suggested increase in the number of chickens to be raised will not result in an increased number of potential layers on farms January 1, 1950, as would normally be expected.

REGIONAL GOALS

During the war there was a strong demand both for dried and frozen eggs, and egg production expanded especially in the Midwestern States. For the 5-year period, 1943-1947, over 29 percent of the total U.S. layers were located in the West North Central region. The rate of lay in the West North Central States has increased by 39 percent since pre-war. This rate of increase is much larger than in any other region and explains why the West North Central region now produces nearly one-third of the nation's egg supply compared with one-fourth, during 1935 through 1939.

After the war was over, the demand for dried eggs declined and prices in the Midwest failed to keep pace with prices in areas closer to the large consuming centers. Drying and breaking plants developed to meet lend lease demand, began to look to the government for an outlet for such dried or frozen egg production as was in excess of commercial requirements.

For the first 8 months of 1948 farm prices in the West North Central region have averaged 7.2 cents below the U.S. average. Some increase in the spread in price differentials is to be expected because of increases in the costs of marketing. Much of the increase in differentials, however, is due to a decrease in the demand for eggs for drying and freezing purposes as explained above and it is in these regions, therefore, that the principal production adjustments should take place. These production adjustments should be made by those producers whose production practices and marketing facilities do not permit them to compete on a quality basis in the shell egg market. Producers in these areas must either see that improvements are made in marketing facilities or reduce their production if they are to receive fair returns.

In arriving at the suggested distribution of potential layers by regions consideration was given to trends in the distribution of layers and the rate of lay. This information, together with the distribution called for by the suggested goal for January 1, 1949, and the proposed distribution for 1950 is shown below:

Potential Layers: Distribution by Region, Actual
and Proposed, and Regional Farm Price Spreads

1935-1939			1948 (Jan. - Aug.):			Proposed Distribution				
Region:	Amount			Amount			by regions			
	Distribution: Price			Distribution: Price			by regions			
	by regions			by regions			1949	1950		
	Layers:Egg	or Below	Layers:Egg	or Below	Layers:Egg	or Below	Layers:Egg	Layers:Egg		
	:Prod.:	U.S.	:Prod.:	U.S.	:Prod.:	U.S.	:Prod.:	U.S.		
	:Average		:Average		:Average		:Average			
	Percent	Cents		Percent	Cents		Percent	Percent		
		Per Doz.			Per Doz.					
N.A.	12.1	15.3	1/(10.6)	14.3	15.5	1/(19.0)	16.2	18.8	16.0	18.8
			2/(5.4)			2/(10.7)				
E.N.C.	21.7	22.6	-0.9	19.5	20.6	-2.4	19.8	21.1	19.5	20.8
W.N.C.	26.6	24.5	-3.4	29.0	30.6	-7.2	27.3	27.7	26.0	26.6
S.A.	9.8	8.7	1.3	9.4	8.0	4.5	9.2	7.6	10.0	8.2
S.C.	20.3	17.1	3/(-1.9)	18.8	15.5	3/(-2.6)	18.3	14.5	18.0	14.0
			4/(-3.1)			4/(-4.3)				
W.	9.5	11.8	5/ 0.5	9.0	9.8	5/ 1.1	9.2	10.3	10.5	11.6
			6/ 2.0			6/ 8.6				
U.S.	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1/ (New England)			4/ (West South Central)							
2/ (Middle Atlantic)			5/ (Mountain)							
3/ (East South Central)			6/ (Pacific)							

The suggested distribution of potential layers to be on hand January 1, 1950, in each region together with the recommended goal for chickens to be raised in each region is shown below.

Computation of Regional Goals for Chickens to be Raised, 1949

Region	Potential Layers Needed			Expected	Goals for Chickens	
	January 1, 1950			Number	to be raised in	
	Hens	Pullets	Total	Pullets	1949	
	Carried	be raised	Potential	Saved per	Number	Percent
	Over	in 1949	Layers	100 chickens	of 1948	
				Raised		
	Thousands			Percent	Thousands	
N.A.	21,000	44,000	65,000	44	100,000	116
E.N.C.	22,000	57,000	79,000	43	132,000	113
W.N.C.	27,000	78,000	105,000	44	177,000	109
S.A.	15,000	25,000	40,000	32	79,000	111
S.C.	30,000	43,000	73,000	31	100,000	102
W.	17,000	26,000	43,000	35	74,000	118
U.S.	132,000	273,000	405,000	39	700,000	110

PRODUCTION GUIDE FOR THE BROILER INDUSTRY

In order to establish a goal for commercially raised broilers, it is necessary to give consideration to the number of chickens that farmers will raise during the year. While it is difficult to accurately forecast very far in advance what the farm production of chickens will be, it appears advisable at this time to assume that the goal of 700 million young chickens to be raised for flock replacement will be reached.

If farmers raise 10 percent more chickens for flock replacement purposes in 1949 than were raised in 1948, the supply of chicken meat available for consumption from farm flocks will amount to nearly 18 pounds per person after all non-civilian requirements have been met. Actual consumption of chicken meat in 1947 was 23.4 pounds per person and consumption in 1948 is estimated to be 22.5 pounds. It seems desirable that a total of 23.5 pounds per person of chicken should be available in 1949. Therefore, the commercial broiler

industry will be relied upon to furnish about 5.5 pounds per person. This will require the production of approximately 325 million commercially raised broilers, which is slightly below the number apparently being produced in 1948.

The outlook for the production of commercial broilers during the first six to eight months of 1949 appears, at this time, to be very favorable because of the expected improvement in the feed price-supply situation and also because consumer purchasing power is expected to remain at approximately the 1948 level.

However, the year 1949 may present the broiler industry with a number of marketing problems. These problems may not appear during the first six or eight months of the year because of the comparative shortage of both chicken and red meat and because of the high level of income that will prevail during that time. During these months it is probable that broiler production can be maintained at, or slightly above the rate prevailing during the same months in 1948. Beginning with September, however, marketings of farm raised chickens will begin in volume and broiler producers should be prepared to meet considerable competition from this type of chicken. If farmers raise 10 percent more chickens as is requested in the goals, these marketing problems might become substantial. Many people believe, however, that feed prices will be sufficiently low and egg prices sufficiently high during the spring of 1949 as to induce farmers to buy more than enough chicks to meet the goal of young chickens raised. Each one percent increase in the number of chickens raised reduces the need for commercial broilers by 5.4 million head.

Broiler producers should also give consideration in making plans for 1949, to the fact that significant shifts are occurring in the location of broiler production. Millions of broilers produced on the East Coast have, in the past, been shipped to the Midwest and Pacific Coast for consumption. New production areas, especially in the Midwest and West Coast, are being developed and are expanding rapidly. Production is also increasing in other sections of the country. To the extent that these new areas will meet a heretofore unfilled demand, the expansion can continue without repercussions on older established producing areas. Broiler producers in established areas should watch this growth carefully as it may have considerable affect on their own market outlets.

GOAL FOR TURKEYS RAISED IN 1949

In view of prospective requirements for turkeys, a goal of 35.1 million head to be raised in 1949 was announced. This is about the same number as was raised in 1947 and is 10 percent more than the indicated number in 1948. This production will provide consumers with a fraction less than 4 pounds of turkey, dressed weight, during the year beginning October 1949. In establishing this goal it has been assumed that the birds raised in 1949 will average 18.3 pounds at time of marketing compared with 18.1 pounds in 1947.

During 1935-39 consumption averaged only 2.6 pounds per person. The peak of consumption was reached in both 1946 and 1947 when 4.5 pounds per person were consumed. Consumption for 1948 is currently estimated at 3.4 pounds per person. The goal, therefore, allows for a liberal consumption rate and it is believed that a supply of approximately 4 pounds per person should be adequate.

In order to reach the goal of 35.1 million head of turkeys to be raised in 1949, it will be necessary for producers to have on hand January 1, 1949, about 1/5 more breeder hens than were carried over on the same date in 1948. This assumes a ratio of 10 turkeys raised per breeder hen on hand January 1, 1949. This ratio, although less than the expected record level in 1948, is reasonable in light of previous experiences.

Turkey breeders and producers should make every effort in 1949 to increase the rate of lay per bird, and the hatchability of the eggs, as well as to decrease the death loss of poults.

PRICE SUPPORT

Eggs and Chickens: The Agricultural Act of 1948 provides that prices of eggs and chickens shall be supported at 90 percent of parity during 1949. In 1950 the support of egg and chicken prices is not mandatory. However, the Act authorizes the Secretary to support prices of such commodities at any level up to 90 percent of parity, taking into consideration the ability and willingness of producers to keep supplies in line with demand and other factors.

Turkeys: The support price for turkeys in 1949 will be not less than 60 percent of parity nor more than the level at which turkeys were supported in 1948. Although support operations were not actually needed during 1948, the USDA was committed to support turkey prices at 90 percent of parity and this, therefore, becomes the maximum level at which prices may be supported during 1949. For 1950 the Secretary is authorized to support turkey prices at any level up to 90 percent of parity, but support is not mandatory.

Ducks, ducklings and other poultry: Support in 1949 is subject to the discretion of the Secretary, to the extent that funds are available after taking into account the mandatory operations with respect to other commodities. For 1950 price support is mandatory at any level up to 90 percent of parity when prices of chickens or turkeys are supported.

Note: It should be pointed out, however, that the Act provides for a redefinition of parity for eggs beginning in 1950 in such a manner as to lower it by several cents a dozen. The maximum support level for eggs, therefore, will decline considerably even if the general price level remains at present levels. On chickens and turkeys the new parity in 1950 will be only slightly higher than would be obtained under the present formula.

GOALS FOR HENS AND PULLETS JANUARY 1, 1949SUMMARY

Goals: A national goal of 425 million potential layers on farms January 1, 1949 is recommended. A flock of 425 million potential layers will produce enough eggs to meet all requirements for non-civilian use, and provide at least 380 eggs per capita for civilian use. In setting up this goal it has been assumed that the rate of lay per hen housed will average 130 eggs for the U. S. This is three eggs more than was obtained in 1947, when the rate of lay per hen housed was the largest on record. This increase of three eggs per hen housed is based on : (1) the expected distribution of potential layers for each region which will result in proportionately more hens in the North Atlantic and East North Central States where egg production is high, (2) a reduced movement off farms in the spring of 1949 with a resulting increase in the rate of lay per hen housed, (3) a continued increase in the rate of lay per layer in farm flocks from month to month, (4) an increased number of pullets to be added to farm flocks in the fall of 1949, and (5) improved feeding practices made possible by increased feed supplies.

In recommending the goal of 425 million potential layers it is suggested that producers, who have satisfactory market outlets, carry over as many healthy hens and pullets as is consistent with good poultry management practices. The recommended goal for the individual regions is in each case somewhat in excess of the number which would be indicated by the observed trend in the carryover of potential layers from August 1 to the following January 1, but it is closely in line with the percentage carryover for earlier years and can be attained with full producer cooperation. The request for an increase in the proportionate carryover of August 1 potential layers was made necessary by the reduction in chickens raised. This reduction was the result of a scarcity of feed grains and high feed prices during 1947-48. While the goal for hens and pullets on farms January 1, 1949 is slightly below the number on hand January 1, 1948, it is believed that production will meet stated requirements. During 1948 purchases for price support have exceeded 2 million cases or nearly 5 eggs per capita. Details regarding the goals for each region and the computation of requirements are shown below.

Potential Layers on Farms, August 1 ^{1/}
(Thousands)

Year	: North : Atlantic	: E.North : Central	: W.North : Central	: South : Atlantic	: South : Central	: Western	: United : States
1942-46	: 84,786	: 123,584	: 187,875	: 55,222	: 116,817	: 53,733	: 622,017
1947	: 91,466	: 124,820	: 182,054	: 53,076	: 101,710	: 48,687	: 601,813
1948	: 86,797	: 117,350	: 163,612	: 50,259	: 96,533	: 49,237	: 563,788

Potential Layers on Farms, January 1 ^{1/}

1943-47	: 63,066	: 91,348	: 140,242	: 45,761	: 97,527	: 41,320	: 479,264
1948	: 61,393	: 83,533	: 124,112	: 40,077	: 80,443	: 38,305	: 427,863
Goals	: 69,000	: 84,000	: 116,000	: 39,000	: 78,000	: 39,000	: 425,000

Percentage of August 1, 1948 Potential Layers

Goals	: 79%	: 72%	: 71%	: 77%	: 81%	: 80%	: 75.4%
^{1/} Hens and pullets of laying age plus pullets not of laying age.							

Goals Achievement: In order to assure adequate supplies of eggs during 1949, it will be necessary for poultrymen to do two things: first, save as many of the healthy hens and pullets as is consistent with good poultry management practices in order to provide the necessary number of potential layers January 1, 1949; and second, feed the necessary laying mash and manage the laying flocks in such a way as to maintain high egg production, especially during the fall and winter months.

Requirements: If the stated goals are met, both in terms of number of potential layers on farms and in terms of the rate of lay of 130 eggs per hen housed, all requirements will be fully met. Details are summarized below.

Eggs: Estimated Requirements for the Year 1949
(Shell equivalent)

Disposition	:	Basis	:	Requirements
	:		:	Mil. doz.
U. S. Civilian	:	380 eggs per cap. for 147.2 million persons	:	4,660
U. S. Military	:	20% above 1948 (tentative estimate)	:	200
Net Exports & Shipments	:	Less than indicated exports for 1948	:	25
Eggs for Hatching	:	10% above 1948	:	175
Change in Stocks	:	None	:	0
Total Requirements	:		:	5,060
Farm production needed	:	5,060 ÷ 110%	:	4,600

Hens and Pullets

Goals : Assumed rate of lay 130 : 425 million layers

FOREWORD

One of the problems in connection with production goals for poultry and poultry products has been that of expressing the goals in such a form that they are not only easily understood, but are capable of adaptation to a program of carrying the message to individual farmers in county and community meetings. It is believed that it would be helpful to those agencies charged with the responsibility of meeting with farmers, if the goals could be expressed in terms of the number of potential layers to be on farms January 1, in relation to the number of potential layers on farms August 1. Since there is a large variation in the pattern of culling over the country, the national goal for hens and pullets as of January 1, 1949, is being broken down into the six major regions.

OUTLOOK

In planning for the Goals for Hens and Pullets on farms January 1, 1949, it is recognized that there has been a considerable variation in the rate at which culling of laying flocks and culling of young stock takes place, and that there are rather definite trends in the year to year culling of layers and young pullets. The rate of culling also varies as between regions. For this reason a close study has been made of these trends and recommendations are based on such trends and on good farm management practices.

In giving consideration to the probable requirements for eggs during the calendar year 1949, a continuation of about present levels of economic activity and a continuation of the present demand for food at prices about the same as those prevailing in 1948 is assumed. The demand for eggs and poultry will continue at high levels in view of the prospective shortages and high prices of meat during the 1948-49 fiscal year. It is estimated that the civilian per capita consumption of meats during the 1948-49 fiscal year will total 142 pounds as compared to 150 pounds for the 1947-48 fiscal year and 155 pounds for the 1946-47 fiscal year. With this reduction in meat supplies, the demand for eggs and poultry should continue high even though some decline in economic activity should occur.

Beginning with October and continuing from that time until the following harvest, poultry feed costs are expected to average at least 15 percent below the levels which have prevailed during the current crop year. This is expected to result in increased returns above feed costs from egg production this fall. This is likely to minimize the culling of layers and young pullets at that time.

PRICE SUPPORT

Under the Agricultural Act of 1948 price support for eggs is mandatory at 90 percent of parity until December 31, 1949.

REQUIREMENTS

U. S. Civilians: During the 5-yr. period, 1944 to 1948, per capita egg consumption has averaged 376. Consumption reached its peak of 397 eggs in 1945 when meat was being rationed and averaged 380 eggs during 1947 and 1948. At the present time it seems likely that economic activity will continue at about present levels which should result in a continuation of the demand for at least 380 eggs per person at prices reflecting 90 percent of parity or more. During 1949 it is expected that there will be an average of 147.2 million civilians. A reasonable estimate of civilian demand, therefore, would be 4,660 million dozens. This includes shell, dried and frozen eggs expressed in terms of shell eggs.

U. S. Military: At the present time no indication of military requirements has been received. For purposes of discussion, however, we have assumed that there will be an increase in military demands of roughly 20 percent above 1948, and that the demand for eggs for military use during 1948 will be in the neighborhood of 200 million dozens.

Exports and Shipments: Only a small part of the total U. S. production of eggs is exported. It is estimated that 25 million dozen will be exported in 1949.

Eggs for Hatching: If profits from egg production increase during the fall of 1948 and continue high during the hatching season of 1949, the demand for baby chicks for flock replacement purposes can be expected to increase above the 1948 level. In view of the short supplies of meat we may also expect a continued strong demand for baby chicks to be placed in commercial broiler areas. It is estimated, however, that 10 percent more eggs used in the hatch of 1949 than were used in 1948 will be adequate. This would increase the number of eggs required for hatching to approximately 175 million dozen.

Commercial Storage Stocks: The estimated ending stocks for 1948 of 60 million dozen of eggs are considered adequate. No change in the size of carryover stocks is anticipated.

Total Requirements: The sum of the requirements discussed above amounts to approximately 5,060 million dozen eggs. Non-farm production of eggs is estimated to equal 10 percent of farm production. Therefore, the requirements for farm produced eggs amounts to 4,600 million dozens.

NUMBER OF HENS AND PULLETS NEEDED

The rate of egg production per layer has been steadily increasing during recent years. In terms of the number of layers on farms January 1 it has been increased from 103 in 1939 to 127 in 1947. Since culling during the first 6 months of 1949 is not expected to be heavy, and since an increase in pullets raised for flock replacements in 1949 is also expected, annual rate of 130 eggs per hen housed seems reasonable. At this rate of lay 425 million hens and pullets would be needed to fully meet all requirements as listed above.

INDICATED NUMBER OF POTENTIAL LAYERS JANUARY 1

There were 6 percent fewer potential layers on farms August 1, 1948 than on August 1, 1947. During recent years there has been a downward trend in the percentage of potential layers carried over from August 1 to December 31. In 1947, 71.1 percent of the potential layers on farms August 1 were carried over to December 31. If we assume that the same percentage will be carried over in 1948, we arrive at an estimate of January 1 potential layers of 401 million birds.

The above indications are based on normal culling. In view of the prospective reduction in feed prices, normal culling will probably not take place. In such an event, the actual number of potential layers on farms January 1 would be somewhat in excess of the total of 401 million mentioned above, and maybe as many as 410 million potential layers. This number of potential layers will not be sufficient to meet anticipated requirements. It is therefore important that efforts be made to carry over the maximum number of hens and pullets that is consistent with good poultry management practices.

GOALS

The trend in the rate of culling of layers and young pullets from August 1 to January 1, is indicated by the figures shown in the tables for each region which follow. In these tables the January 1 number of potential layers has been expressed as a percentage of the number on hand the previous August 1, and goals for each region have been indicated.

In setting up the goals it is recommended that a maximum number of healthy hens and pullets be retained on farms for the next laying season. The specified goals are intended to accomplish this objective.

North Atlantic States: The carryover of potential layers from August 1 to January 1 in the North Atlantic States has been consistently around 73 percent. In 1946, however, the carryover was 78.5 percent and in 1947 it was 67.1 percent, probably because of the increase in the price of feed. As the new crop of feed grain comes on the market poultry ration costs are expected to decline and a more favorable egg-feed ratio will result. In view of the improvement in egg-feed ratio and in view of the indicated shortage of potential layers, a 79 percent carryover of potential layers is suggested for the North Atlantic States. The potential layers in the North Atlantic States are generally of good quality and it does not seem unreasonable to ask for a carryover which is slightly larger than in 1946. The proposed goal for this reason, therefore, is being set at 69 million potential layers on hand January 1, 1949.

North Atlantic Region: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	64,000	46,239	72.2
1939	65,444	48,996	74.9
1940	64,267	47,462	73.9
1941	71,522	51,971	72.7
1942	80,252	60,845	75.8
1943	92,917	66,913	72.0
1944	86,497	63,092	72.9
1945	88,371	64,908	73.4
1946	75,895	59,573	78.5
1947	91,466	61,393	67.1
1948	86,797	69,000	79.0 Goal

East North Central: The carryover of potential layers from August 1 to January 1 has for the past 10 years shown a rather substantial downward trend. In 1938, 78 percent of the potential layers which were on hand August 1 were carried over to January 1. After 1943 there was a sharp reduction in the percentage carryover, and 71 to 72 percent of the potential layers on farms August 1 were carried over during 1944, 1945 and 1946. In 1947 only about 67 percent of the potential layers were carried over. In view of the shortage of potential layers on farms August 1, it is suggested that at least 72 percent of the August 1 potential layers be carried over to January 1. This would result in 84 million potential layers in the East North Central States on January 1, 1949.

East North Central States: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	99,795	78,149	78.3
1939	103,173	80,299	77.8
1940	102,320	78,729	76.9
1941	109,286	84,531	77.3
1942	120,236	93,287	77.6
1943	126,793	98,729	77.9
1944	126,234	89,608	71.0
1945	125,839	90,447	71.9
1946	118,816	84,669	71.3
1947	124,820	83,533	66.9
1948	117,350	84,000	72.0 Goal

West North Central States: The downward trend in the percentage of potential layers carried over in the West North Central States has been more pronounced than in any other region. Except for 1941 and 1942 the trend has decreased from 85 percent carryover in 1938, to 68 percent carryover in 1947. During recent years the price received for eggs in this region has been low in relation to prices received in other regions. For this reason it is believed that a carryover of 71 percent in 1948 will be adequate. This will result in 116 million potential layers on hand in the West North Central States on January 1, 1949.

West North Central States: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	120,716	103,085	85.4
1939	130,945	108,482	82.8
1940	129,972	106,751	82.1
1941	146,852	122,747	83.6
1942	175,393	144,918	82.6
1943	201,721	152,491	75.6
1944	186,548	138,636	74.3
1945	192,564	137,466	71.4
1946	183,149	127,701	69.7
1947	182,054	124,112	68.2
1948	163,612	116,000	71.0 Goal

South Atlantic States: The carryover of potential layers in the South Atlantic States reached its peak in 1941 when nearly 88 percent of the potential layers on hand August 1 were on hand January 1 the year following. Since 1941 the percentage carryover has been considerably reduced. In 1947, 75.5 percent of the August 1 potential layers remained on farms January 1. A goal of 77 percent carryover is suggested. This will result in 39 million potential layers/ in the South Atlantic States on January 1, 1949. on hand /

South Atlantic States: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from
August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	43,831	36,612	83.5
1939	44,235	37,586	85.0
1940	45,119	36,713	81.4
1941	45,984	40,423	87.9
1942	51,742	44,619	86.2
1943	57,587	49,762	86.4
1944	55,159	46,098	83.6
1945	55,519	45,718	82.3
1946	56,105	42,610	75.9
1947	53,076	40,077	75.5
1948	50,259	39,000	77.0 Goal

South Central States: The carryover of potential layers in the South Central States reached its peak in 1941 and has declined substantially since that date. Prices of eggs in this region have been low in relation to the U. S. average farm price. It is suggested that 81 percent of the potential layers be carried over to January 1, 1949. This will result in 78 million potential layers at that time.

South Central States: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from
August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	89,275	78,494	87.9
1939	93,741	81,117	86.5
1940	87,767	76,860	87.6
1941	97,329	89,233	91.7
1942	113,664	103,039	90.7
1943	128,556	109,821	85.4
1944	119,613	96,308	80.5
1945	115,712	94,892	82.0
1946	106,538	83,573	78.4
1947	101,710	80,443	79.1
1948	96,533	78,000	81.0 Goal

Western: The carryover of potential layers in the Western region has varied from 73 percent to 81.4 percent. The largest carryover took place in 1941 and the smallest in 1944. During 1945, 1946 and 1947 approximately 80 percent of all potential layers on hand August 1 remained on farms January 1 following. A goal of 80 percent is suggested for 1948. This will result in 39 million potential layers on farms in the Western states on January 1, 1949.

Western States: Percentage Carryover of Potential Layers from August 1 to December 31

Year	Potential Layers August 1	Potential Layers December 31	Percentage Carryover
	Thousands		Percent
1938	45,053	33,562	74.5
1939	48,327	36,175	74.9
1940	43,735	34,800	79.6
1941	47,922	39,006	81.4
1942	55,105	42,251	76.7
1943	59,564	45,871	77.0
1944	54,968	40,138	73.0
1945	51,622	40,802	79.0
1946	47,405	37,539	79.2
1947	48,687	38,305	78.7
1948	49,237	39,000	80.0 Goal

HOGS - 1948 FALL PIG CROP 1/

An increase of at least 10 percent above 1947 in the number of sows to farrow is requested by the proposed goal for the 1948 fall pig crop. This would provide 34.4 million fall pigs if the number saved per litter equals the average of the last 10 years.

Prices of feed grains are expected to be lower in the 1948-49 feeding year while hog prices are likely to continue high, resulting in a more favorable feeding ratio than in recent months. From the standpoint of prospective meat supplies and consumer demand, an increase of even more than 10 percent in the fall pig crop is justified. Therefore, those areas and those producers who are in a position to do so should find it advantageous to expand farrowings more than the average increase requested by the goal.

Output of beef, veal, lamb and mutton is expected to decline further in 1949. With prospects now indicating a continued strong demand for meat, the reduced output of other meats is expected to result in a favorable market for more hogs. Total meat supplies in 1949 would furnish approximately 140 pounds per capita for civilians, assuming some further reduction in slaughter of cattle and calves and increases in the pig crops this fall and next spring.

In view of the decreased numbers of spring pigs and other livestock to consume the 1948 feed grain crops, adequate feed supplies will be available, in addition to amounts required for other purposes, to feed out even more than the proposed number of fall pigs if crop growing conditions are average or better. Until the 1948 grain crops become available, careful management of feed supplies will be necessary if the goal is to be attained. In many cases farmers can carry sows through the summer for farrowing fall pigs by utilizing a larger amount of pasture than usual.

The current situation reflected by the below average hog-corn ratio and small stocks of feed grains probably will be reversed as soon as the 1948 crops are harvested. Farmers' plans on March 1 were to increase the total acreage of the four principal feed grains in 1948 about 3 percent above the 1947 acreage, according to the planting report for that date. The 1948 corn crop would be around 600 million bushels greater than the 1947 crop if yields equal the 1942-46 average. Also, a larger production of grain is expected in foreign countries this year and the food and feed grain requirements from the United States may be less than in 1947-48. The prospective supply of grain for feeding beginning this fall is about 10 to 15 percent more per grain consuming animal unit than during the current feeding year. Sound long-range policy leading to a balanced agriculture in this country requires an increase in breeding stock and livestock numbers in relation to the grain supplies in prospect over the next few years.

Total feed requirements for livestock will be less in 1948-49 than in the preceding year. There will be about 10 percent fewer spring pigs to be fed out this fall than a year ago on the basis of breeding intentions reported last December. Cattle numbers are down so that the requirements for feeding both dairy and beef cattle should be reduced somewhat. Poultry numbers also are expected to be smaller and less feed will be needed for their consumption than in the preceding year.

With the reductions in these principal outlets for grain, along with the substantial increase expected in grain production, feed supplies should be more than adequate to feed the proposed fall pig crop and the hog-corn ratio should be more favorable than average for the feeding of hogs in prospect. By producing the number of fall pigs recommended in this goal, farmers will be in a better position to take advantage of the larger grain supplies expected this fall. They will also be in a position to expand next spring's pig crop and to expand feeding further next spring if grain supplies warrant further increases. One of the

1/ This report prepared in April 1, 1948, is included in the 1948 Goal Handbook for purpose of record.

limiting factors on the size of the 1949 spring pig crop may be the breeding stock available for next spring's farrow when a substantial increase in pig production may be important. Keeping additional sows and gilts for farrowing this fall may be one of the best ways to assure having sufficient breeding stock for the 1949 spring pig crop that will be needed on the basis of prospects at breeding time next winter.

Feed grains: Supply per grain-consuming animal unit fed during the year, United States, average 1937-41, annual 1942-48

Crop year beginning	: Production of four feed grains	: Carry-over, beginning of crop year 1/	: Total supply	: Grain-consuming animal units fed annually 2/	: Supply per animal unit fed
	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Mil. tons	Million	Ton
1937-41	99.3	16.9	116.2	153.1	.76
1942	120.8	81.5	139.3	192.4	.72
1943	112.1	17.8	129.9	193.1	.67
1944	116.7	11.6	128.3	173.7	.74
1945	114.4	14.9	129.3	167.7	.77
1946	124.3	10.9	135.2	161.3	.84
1947	96.1	13.7	109.8	152.5	.72
1948	3/115.9	4/8.0	123.9	slightly smaller than 1947	about 10 to 15 percent larger than 1947

- 1/ Total stocks of corn October 1 and oats and barley July 1.
 2/ New series published "Animal Units of Livestock Fed Annually", November 1947
 3/ Based on acreage intentions on March 1 and 1942-46 average yields by States.
 4/ Tentative estimate.

Probable Meat Supplies in 1949

Total meat production in 1948 is now expected to be about 21 billion pounds, making available for civilian consumption a per capita average of approximately 143 pounds when probable exports, imports and military requirements are considered. This is roughly 10 pounds per person less than was available last year. Supplies in 1949 should be approximately 140 pounds per capita if the proposed goals on pig production are attained and prospective slaughter of other meat animals occurs.

UNITED STATES: Total Annual Meat Production and Civilian Consumption 1943-47 and Forecast 1948-49

Item	Unit	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Ind. 1948	Ass'ml 1949
Production								
Beef	Bil. lbs.	8.6	9.1	10.3	9.4	10.4	9.3	9.2
Veal	" "	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.3
Lamb & Mutton	" "	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	.8	.7	.7
Pork	" "	13.6	13.3	10.7	11.2	10.6	9.6	10.0
Total	" "	24.5	25.2	23.7	23.0	23.4	21.0	21.2
Consumption								
Non-civilian	" "	5.7	6.0	5.1	1.9	1.2	0.2	0.5
Civilian	" "	17.9	19.7	18.7	21.2	22.2	20.8	20.7

Civilian per capita 2/ Lbs. 139 153 144 153 155 143 140

1/ Based on attainment of assumed pig goals.

2/ Based on estimated number of persons eating out of civilian supply.

Prospective Demand for Meats

Current estimates indicate no important decline in consumer income during the rest of this year and some possibility of an increase. With lower taxes and possible increased Government expenditures for military defense, along with stimulating effects of the Economic Cooperation Act, consumer income in 1949, when most of the 1948 fall pigs will be processed into pork and lard for consumption, is likely to stay relatively high, since no sharp decline in business activity is foreseen. With the expected further decrease in supplies of beef, veal, lamb and mutton in 1949, hog prices are expected to be at fairly high levels during that period. They should provide a good return over feeding costs to farmers if crop growing conditions are average or better this year, and substantial increases in supplies of feed grains become available.

The present hog price support program will expire on December 31, 1948. No support will be required by law after that date unless Congressional action is taken to provide such support. At the present time, hog prices have dropped to the lowest level since the expiration of price controls. Factors causing the decline are: slightly larger marketings this year than were expected, the feeding of hogs to unusually heavy weights, the closing of many packing plants by the strike of packinghouse employees, and some weakening in consumer demand which may be temporary. Hog marketings will be down somewhat more than seasonally in the third quarter. In the following two quarters market supplies will be still smaller in relation to last year. This decline in hog supplies and a possible increase in demand would operate to maintain hog prices above current levels.

HOG BALANCE SHEET, 1943-47 AND FORECAST 1948-49

NUMBER ON FARMS, JANUARY 1, ANIMAL SLAUGHTER AND PORK
PRODUCTION WITH RELATED DATA

Item	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
	<u>Million Head</u>						
<u>Supplies</u>							
On Farms January 1							
Fall Pig Crop	38.4	42.3	27.2	30.0	26.8	27.3	30.3
Spring Pig Crop	22.2	30.6	22.9	21.9	20.5	19.1	17.9
Other Hogs	<u>13.3</u>	<u>10.8</u>	<u>9.2</u>	<u>9.4</u>	<u>9.6</u>	<u>8.6</u>	<u>9.1</u>
Total	73.9	83.7	59.3	61.3	56.9	55.0	57.3
Pig Crop Produced							
Spring	74.2	55.8	52.2	52.4	52.8	48.0	52.0
Fall	<u>47.6</u>	<u>30.9</u>	<u>34.6</u>	<u>30.5</u>	<u>31.4</u>	<u>34.4</u>	<u>34.0</u>
Total	121.8	86.7	86.8	82.9	84.2	82.4	86.0
Total Supply	195.7	170.4	146.1	144.2	141.1	137.4	143.3
<u>Disappearance</u>							
Slaughter							
Fed. Insp.	63.4	69.0	41.0	44.4	49.1	44.5	
Non-Insp.	<u>31.8</u>	<u>29.1</u>	<u>30.9</u>	<u>31.8</u>	<u>25.6</u>	<u>25.3</u>	
Total	95.2	98.1	71.9	76.2	74.7	69.8	71.6
Other Disappearance	<u>16.8</u>	<u>13.0</u>	<u>12.9</u>	<u>11.1</u>	<u>11.4</u>	<u>10.3</u>	<u>10.7</u>
Total Disappearance	112.0	111.1	84.8	87.3	86.1	80.1	82.3
On Farms end of year	83.7	59.3	61.3	56.9	55.0	57.3	61.0
<u>Percent of Supply</u>				<u>Percent</u>			
Slaughtered	48.6	57.6	49.2	52.8	52.9	50.8	50.0
Fed. Insp.	32.4	40.5	28.1	30.8	34.8	32.4	
Non-Insp.	16.2	17.1	21.1	22.0	18.1	18.4	
Other Disappearance	8.6	7.6	8.8	7.7	8.1	7.5	7.5
On Farms end of year	42.8	34.8	42.0	39.5	39.0	41.7	42.5
<u>Pork Production</u>				<u>Pounds</u>			
Avg. Live Wt. Insp. Sl.	254	244	265	255	254	250	250
Pork Yield per Hog	143	136	149	147	142	138	140
				<u>Billion Pounds</u>			
Total Pork Production	13.6	13.3	10.7	11.2	10.6	9.6	10.0

HOGS: Sows to Farrow, Fall (June 1 to December 1)
1948 STATE GOALS

State	1948	Sows Farrowed Fall of				1948 Goal as Percent of	
	Suggested						
	Goal	1947	1945	1941	1939	1947	1945
		- - T h o u s a n d s - -				- - Percent - -	
Maine	5	4	6	5	5	125	83
N. H.	2	1	2	1	2	200	100
Vt.	2	2	2	2	3	100	100
Mass.	10	8	10	11	11	125	100
R. I.	1	1	1	1	1	100	100
Conn.	4	4	4	2	3	100	100
N. Y.	25	21	27	22	25	119	93
N. J.	9	8	9	9	10	112	100
Pa.	82	70	78	70	82	117	105
Ohio	385	342	364	360	375	113	106
Ind.	525	473	494	488	476	111	106
Ill.	590	527	574	553	502	112	103
Mich.	85	77	98	109	105	110	87
Wis.	175	147	175	196	160	119	100
Minn.	240	209	271	276	230	115	89
Iowa	740	659	768	771	626	112	96
Mo.	430	375	397	427	385	115	108
S. Dak.	53	46	69	62	48	115	77
Nebr.	145	130	181	170	149	112	80
Del.	4	4	4	4	4	100	100
Md.	29	27	29	27	30	107	100
Va.	90	85	81	74	79	106	111
W. Va.	29	26	25	21	27	112	116
N. C.	115	109	94	91	99	106	122
Ky.	154	140	132	140	150	110	117
Tenn.	148	134	126	132	146	110	117
S. C.	89	86	76	58	72	103	117
Ga.	200	178	172	170	179	112	116
Fla.	96	84	77	70	70	114	125
Ala.	125	103	116	100	124	121	108
Miss.	105	86	87	79	103	122	121
Ark.	113	89	97	116	130	127	116
La.	98	92	97	91	117	107	101
Okla.	97	85	116	130	137	114	84
Tex.	192	179	205	207	223	107	94
N. Dak.	17	14	22	20	15	121	77
Kans.	119	101	140	186	163	118	85
Mont.	19	16	22	21	18	119	86
Idaho	22	20	22	48	46	110	100
Wyo.	10	9	7	8	10	111	143
Colo.	29	26	29	38	37	112	100
N. Mex.	7	6	7	10	11	117	100
Ariz.	3	3	3	5	5	100	100
Utah	10	9	11	11	13	111	91
Nev.	2	2	2	2	2	100	100
Wash.	17	15	20	29	28	113	85
Oreg.	20	17	20	28	28	118	100
Calif.	65	59	57	84	88	110	114
U. S.	5,532	4,908	5,426	5,535	5,352	113	102

HOGS - 1949 SPRING PIG GOAL

Prepared Sept. 15, 194

A pig crop of 60 million head, 17 percent more than the crop of 51.4 million farrowed in 1948, is recommended as the 1949 spring pig goal. Assuming average litters saved of 6.2 pigs, achievement of this goal would require an increase of 21 percent over 1948 in the number of sows to farrow. The crop would be the third largest of record and the largest since 1943, when a record total of 74.2 million spring pigs was farrowed. It would exceed the spring pig crops of the years 1945 through 1947 by nearly 8 million head.

Increased hog production will be needed in 1949-50 to maintain the present level of meat consumption. The strong demand for meat with new record prices makes this increase highly desirable, and the abundant feed supplies provided by the large crops this year will make the increase possible. When the 1949 spring pig crop is marketed, (October 1949 to April 1950), the supply of beef will probably be less than during any of the past several years, thus reducing the supply of meat to compete with pork. No major decline in the over-all demand for meat during that period is anticipated. Price support of at least 90 percent of parity for hogs marketed prior to January 1, 1950, is provided by the Agricultural Act of 1948.

The goal for 1949 spring pigs as well as other farm goals prepared by the Department of Agriculture is advisory only. It is based on a thorough analysis of all factors concerned, and it represents an indication of the level of production believed to be advantageous for both producers and consumers. Prospective conditions favor the production of a large proportion of early spring pigs next year. Advance planning of feeding operations can be carried out by individual producers to help reduce the proportion of the pig crop marketed during the weeks when marketings are usually largest. This will help bring about a more even distribution of slaughter supplies in the last half of 1949 and the first part of 1950. A more even distribution of hog marketings and slaughter is desirable in order to avoid market gluts and unusually wide price fluctuations which are not beneficial for either producers or consumers.

Breeding Goal: A pig crop of 60 million head in the spring of 1949 would represent an increase of about 17 percent over the number of spring pigs saved in 1948. It would require 9,677,000 sows to farrow if the litters saved averaged 6.2 pigs. This is about equal to the 10-year average.

An increase of 21 percent over the previous year in the number of sows to farrow spring pigs is probably about the maximum that appears justified under present conditions. Some farmers will be unable to make this large an increase because of limited production facilities. Also, such an increase will reduce materially the number of hogs available for slaughter this fall and winter by reason of the extra number of sows and gilts that would be withheld for spring farrowings. The potential slaughter supply for this period is less than that of a year earlier by reason of the 1-1/2 million reduction in the spring pig crop this year. Delayed marketing of the crop in order to use more new corn and feed to heavier weights will also reduce the slaughter supply this fall. Further reducing the supply by withholding a larger proportion of sows and gilts for breeding would make pork supplies this fall and winter even smaller.

Part of the sows and gilts held for farrowing in the spring of 1949 will come to market during the summer of 1949, - a time when the supply of hogs for slaughter is normally small. This would tend to make a more even supply of meat throughout the 1948-49 year and also a higher level of hog prices this fall and winter than would be obtained if there were no increase in sows held for spring farrowing. Many of the sows which farrow spring pigs will be available for breeding for fall farrowing, and it is expected that an increase in fall pigs in 1949 will be desired if crop conditions early next summer indicate that large feed supplies will be available in 1949-50.

Feed Supplies: Feed concentrate supplies per animal unit fed are expected to be at a record high level during the 1948-49 feeding year. According to September 1948 estimates, the supply will be about 20 percent greater than that available in 1947-48. This results from an anticipated record production of corn, large crops of other feed grains, and by-products from near-record crops of wheat, soybeans, and peanuts, together with smaller numbers of livestock and poultry available for feeding.

Feed supplies are now more favorable for expanding hog production than they were in the fall of 1941, at which time farmers took action to increase the spring pig crop in 1942 by 24 percent over the crop produced in 1941, or from 49.4 million pigs to 61.1 million. The 1941 corn crop plus the carryover in October totaled 3.32 billion bushels, or 172 million more than the combined total in the previous year. This year the corn crop in prospect as of September 1 plus the expected October carryover totals 3.85 billion bushels, or 332 million bushels more than in 1941 and 963 million more than last year. The number of grain-consuming animal units, other than hogs, in 1948-49 is expected to be smaller than in 1941-42, hence the proportion of the total feed supply that will be available for hog feeding will be greater this year than in the earlier period. With larger supplies of feed available than in 1941, it should be less difficult for farmers to increase the spring pig crop from 51.4 million to 60 million pigs, than it was in that earlier period when they increased the crop from 49.4 million to 61.1 million.

The carryover of old corn next fall is expected to be around 500 million bushels even though the rate of feeding per animal should be the highest of record and exports should be as large as 150 million bushels. This prospective carryover, combined with average feed crops in 1949, would again provide near-record feed grain supplies. But even if the corn crop should be as abnormally small as it was in 1947; it would, when combined with the large carryover of feed now in prospect, be sufficient to feed out the 1949 spring pig crop without resulting in a feed shortage.

Hog-Corn Price Ratio: The hog-corn price ratio during the breeding season, September through December, is usually a good indicator of the direction and amount of change from the previous year in the number of sows that will farrow pigs the following spring. In the years when the ratio, farm price basis, has been above 13, there usually has been an increase the following spring in the number of sows farrowed, and conversely when the ratio was below 13 a decrease in farrowings usually has occurred. Ordinarily, the higher the ratio above 13 the greater the percentage increase in farrowings.

The highest average ratio of record during the September-December period is 17.2 which occurred in both 1938 and 1942. The percentage increase in sows farrowing these two years was 27.9 in 1939 and 25.7 in 1943.

Present indications are that the hog-corn ratio during the breeding season for the 1949 spring pig crop will be about the most favorable in the past 25 years. Quotations at Chicago for corn for December delivery have been slightly below \$1.40 per bushel. Cash corn prices will probably be near that level in October and November. Prices in September may be somewhat higher since September futures have been quoted above \$1.60. If hog prices decline no more this fall than they did in late 1947, and prospective conditions indicate that the decline may be less, the average price of barrows and gilts at Chicago at the low point would probably not be under \$25.00 per 100 pounds. This would indicate a hog-corn ratio at Chicago of around 17 to 18, assuming corn prices there to be about \$1.40 per bushel. On this basis it is likely that the farm price ratio will be near a record high.

Meat Supply: The per capita supply of meat expected to be available in 1949 is estimated at about 143 pounds, assuming that the 1949 spring pig goal is achieved. Total meat production would be larger than in 1948, but the supply per capita would be about the same because of the increase in population. If the 1949 fall pig crop is increased so that it will bear the usual relation to

the number of spring pigs, and the spring crop totals 60 million head, as recommended for the goal, meat production in 1950 should be sufficient to provide around 150 pounds per capita, assuming that the slaughter of cattle does not drop below 30 million head. This supply would be much greater than the prewar level of 126 pounds and would compare favorably with the largest per capita supplies in any of the last 35 years.

It is expected that cattlemen will start rebuilding their herds in 1950 or 1951. To do this, it would be necessary for them to sell fewer cattle for slaughter, thus reducing the quantity of beef that would compete with pork. Throughout the remainder of 1948, the slaughter of cattle and calves is expected to continue well below the level of last year when 36 million head were slaughtered. This year's total is now expected to be about 33 million. A further reduction in the slaughter of cattle and calves will probably occur through 1949 and 1950, although more fed cattle are expected to be marketed in the first half of 1949 than in the same period of 1948 since the larger feed supplies will be an incentive to feed more cattle for sale in that period. Most of the cattle fed in the coming year will be slaughtered before the 1949 spring pig crop is ready for market. During the peak of the marketing season for the 1949 spring pig crop, - the winter of 1949-50, - the number of cattle slaughtered may be the smallest for the season in several years.

The supply of lamb and mutton during the marketing period for 1949 spring pigs also will be smaller than in any recent year. The increase in the supply of poultry over 1948-49 probably will be more than sufficient to offset the reduction. The increase in poultry supplies, however, is not expected to have any marked influence on the price of hogs.

Imports and exports of meat will cause little change in our meat supply in 1949-50. Most of the imports from Canada probably will be live cattle. The number of cattle available there indicates that exports to the United States during 1949 probably will not be much in excess of 200,000 head. Since a part of these will be dairy and feeder cattle, the number available for slaughter is estimated at less than one percent of our total slaughter of cattle and calves. Imports of meat will come largely from South America and consist mostly of canned corned beef. Such imports have been arriving in this country at the rate of 5 to 10 million pounds per month. They are equivalent to less than one percent of our own production. These imports are partly offset by our commercial exports which are now running at about the rate of 5 million pounds per month. The net effect of all of our imports and exports of meats and meat animals is to increase our meat supply by a fraction of one percent.

Demand: During the year 1947, per capita meat supplies, consumer incomes, and livestock and meat prices reached new peaks. During the current year it appears that consumer incomes will be even higher and livestock and meat prices have already exceeded the peaks of last year. However, meat supplies are smaller than last year and consumers' expenditures for meat have increased to a level somewhat above the usual prewar relationship to their disposable income. During 1949 and 1950, consumer income is expected to remain near the 1947 and 1948 levels, - probably increasing somewhat in early 1949 and declining in 1950. With about the same per capita meat supply in 1949 as in 1948, and a moderate increase in 1950, the prices of meat and livestock should compare reasonably well with the average of the last two years. Should an unexpected decline in consumer demand occur during the next two years, export outlets for some of our production probably could be obtained by supplying foreign demands now being denied by export controls. During the current year the demand for meat from abroad has been considerably in excess of that permitted by the small export allocations. If there were larger allocations or if there was no export control in effect on meat in 1949-50, it is fairly certain that meat exports would be greater than in the present year, but the extent of the increase is uncertain. The quantity taken by European countries would depend to a large extent upon availability of ECA funds.

Price Support: Price support for hogs at 90 percent of the parity price is mandatory for hogs marketed through the end of 1949. Thereafter the support is discretionary at a level varying between 60 and 90 percent of the parity price. The mandatory support level will apply to 1949 spring pigs marketed prior to January 1, 1950. In nearly all of the past three years market prices of hogs have been well above the support level and if consumer demand for meats continues strong, it is expected that hog prices in 1949 and 1950 will continue above 90 percent of parity.

Suggested State Goals: The goals suggested for each State were arrived at on the basis of (1) the indicated feed available in each State, (2) the relationship of that feed supply to the supply available in 1941 and to the increase in farrowings which occurred from 1941 to 1942, and (3) the number of sows farrowing in 1947 and 1948. Although the total feed supply in 1948-49 is indicated to be considerably larger than in 1941-42 when the number of sows farrowed was increased 25 percent over the previous year, it is not as evenly distributed over the country as in the earlier year. The proportion in the 12 Corn Belt States is much greater. Nine of the Southern and Western States and four of the North Atlantic States have less feed than in 1941-42. Some States which have relatively large feed supplies this year in comparison with 1941-42 were low in hog production in 1947 and 1948, and hence might find it difficult to increase farrowings greatly in 1949 because of scarcity of breeding stock.

Consideration of all the factors involved leads to the conclusion that the Corn Belt States which normally produce the greater part of the nation's hog supply are in a position this year to increase hog production relatively more than most of the other States.

Achievement of the Goals: Prospective conditions favor the production of a large proportion of early spring pigs next year. These pigs could be made ready for market from this year's large corn crop and marketed early, thus making a more even distribution of slaughter supplies in the latter half of 1949.

In expanding hog production in line with this goal, individual producers will be particularly interested in making advance plans for marketing their hogs. The physical capacity of packing plants will be more than adequate to handle the hogs marketed from a pig crop as large as suggested for this goal. If hogs are marketed in an orderly manner through the marketing season, it is expected that the plants will be able to maintain sufficient labor force to enable them to operate at full capacity when required to do so. The seasonal pattern of hog marketings with the resulting seasonal variations in hog prices are familiar to most producers. In producing a larger number of pigs next spring many producers will find it advantageous to carry on their producing and feeding operations so as to have a smaller proportion of their hogs ready for market at the time when marketings are usually largest.

Table 1. HOG BALANCE SHEET, 1941-47 AND FORECAST 1948-49

NUMBER ON FARMS, JANUARY 1, ANIMAL SLAUGHTER AND PORK
PRODUCTION WITH RELATED DATA

Item	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Partly Forecast 1948	Pro- jected 1949
(Million Head)									
<u>Supplies</u>									
On Farms January 1									
Pigs under 6 months	26.3	31.1	38.4	42.3	27.2	30.0	26.8	27.3	28.2
Hogs over 6 months	19.5	18.8	22.2	30.6	22.9	21.9	20.5	19.1	19.9
Sows and Gilts for breeding	8.6	10.7	13.3	10.8	9.2	9.4	9.6	8.7	10.4
Total	54.4	60.6	73.9	83.7	59.3	61.3	56.9	55.0	58.5
<u>Pig Crop Produced</u>									
Spring	49.4	61.1	74.2	55.8	52.2	52.4	52.8	51.4	60.0
Fall	35.6	43.8	47.6	30.9	34.6	30.5	31.4	32.0	38.0
Total	85.0	104.9	121.8	86.7	86.8	82.9	84.2	83.4	98.0
Total Supply	139.3	165.5	195.7	170.4	146.1	144.2	141.1	138.5	156.5
<u>Disappearance</u>									
Slaughter									
Fed. Insp.	46.5	53.9	63.4	69.0	41.0	44.4	49.1	44.3	49.0
Non-Insp.	24.9	24.7	31.8	29.1	30.9	31.8	25.6	25.2	25.4
Total	71.4	78.5	95.2	98.1	71.9	76.2	74.7	69.6	74.4
Other Disappearance	7.3	13.1	16.8	13.0	12.9	11.1	11.4	10.4	12.5
Total Disappearance	78.7	91.6	112.0	111.1	84.8	87.3	86.1	80.0	86.9
On Farms end of year	60.6	73.9	83.7	59.3	61.3	56.9	55.0	58.5	69.6
(Percent)									
<u>Percent of Supply</u>									
Slaughtered	51.3	47.5	48.6	57.6	49.2	52.8	52.9	49.7	47.5
Fed. Insp.	33.4	32.6	32.4	40.5	28.1	30.8	34.8	31.9	31.3
Non-Insp.	17.9	14.9	16.2	17.1	21.1	22.0	18.1	17.8	16.2
Other Disappearance	5.2	7.9	8.6	7.6	8.8	7.7	8.1	7.5	8.0
On Farms end of year	43.5	44.6	42.8	34.8	42.0	39.5	39.0	42.8	44.5
(Pounds)									
<u>Pork Production</u>									
Avg. Live Wt.									
Insp. Sl.	241	245	254	244	265	255	254	252	256
Pork Yield per Hog	136	140	143	136	149	147	142	141	143
(Billion Pounds)									
Total Pork Production	9.5	10.9	13.6	13.3	10.7	11.2	10.6	9.8	10.6

Note: Because of rounding the totals shown do not always agree with the addition of items.

Table 2. Livestock and Feed-Grain-Consuming Animal Units, Fed Annually 1945-49 and Feed Supply for Crop Year Beginning October 1, 1944-48

Item	Unit	1945	1946	1947	1/ 1948	2/ 1949
Number:						
Milk cows	Jan. 1 Mil. Head	27.8	26.7	26.1	25.2	24.5
Cattle on feed.	" "	4.4	4.2	4.3	3.8	4.0
All other cattle	" "	53.4	51.5	50.8	49.6	48.0
All Cattle & Calves	" "	<u>85.6</u>	<u>82.4</u>	<u>81.2</u>	<u>78.6</u>	<u>76.5</u>
Sheep	" "	46.5	42.4	37.8	35.3	33.5
Horses & Mules	" "	12.0	11.1	10.0	9.2	8.4
Hogs	" "	59.3	61.3	56.9	55.0	58.5
Pig Crop, Spring	" "	52.2	52.4	52.8	51.4	60.03/
Fall	" "	34.6	30.5	31.4	32.0	38.04/
Following Spring	" "	52.4	52.8	51.4	60.03/	
Chickens	Jan. 1	516.5	530.2	474.4	463.0	444.0
Hens & Pullets	"	473.9	474.2	435.7	427.9	420.0
Chickens raised on farms	"	914.8	745.8	745.4	635.0	700.0
Broilers produced on farms	"	345.6	275.6	283.1	325.0	325.0
Turkeys raised on farms	"	<u>44.2</u>	<u>40.7</u>	<u>35.1</u>	<u>31.7</u>	<u>40.0</u>
		1944- 45	1945- 46	1946- 47	1947- 48	1948- 49
Animal Units:						
Feed-grain consuming						
Fed annually 5/	Mil. Units	173.7	167.7	161.3	154.1	156.7
Feed Supply:						
Corn crop	Mil. Bu.	3,088.1	2,880.9	3,250.0	2,401.0	3,528.86/
Corn supply	"	3,325.2	3,196.8	3,423.5	2,686.4	3,655.06/
Total supply of concentrates	Mil. Tons	157.8	155.2	159.7	135.7	165.56/
Supply of all concentrates						
per animal unit	Tons	.91	.93	.99	.88	1.066/
Fed per animal unit	"	.74	.80	.77	.76	.80

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Partly forecast.

3/ Goal.

4/ Assumed production.

5/ New series published, "Animal Units of Livestock Fed Annually", November 1947.

6/ Based on September, 1948, indications.

Table 3. Relation of Hog-Corn Price Ratio during Breeding Season September-December to Increase and Decrease in Sows Farrowing Spring Pig Crop and Increase and Decrease in Following Year in Average Dec.-Feb. Farm Price of Hogs, 1924-47

Year	Hog-Corn Price Ratio September-December 1/	North Central States	U. S.	Number Thousands	Sows Farrowed Next Spring	Number Thousands	In Sows for Spring Farrow	Percent Increase or Decrease from Previous Year	Percent Increase or Decrease Following Year	Dollars	Percent
1938	17.2	18.9	17.2	8,692	1,897	27.9	-	-	2.03	28.8	
1942	17.2	18.4	17.2	12,174	2,490	25.7	-	-	1.16	8.3	
1926	16.6	17.5	16.6	9,754	706	7.8	-	-	3.29	29.8	
1941	15.5	16.3	15.5	9,684	1,924	24.8	-	-	3.04	27.8	
1937	15.3	16.7	15.3	6,795	618	10.0	-	-	.62	8.1	
1935	14.7	15.8	14.7	6,954	1,487	27.2	-	-	.21	2.3	
1932	14.2	17.4	14.2	9,122	312	3.5	-	-	.50	18.5	
1946	14.2	14.8	14.2	8,652	543	6.7	-	-	1.50	6.6	
1925	13.5	15.3	13.5	9,048	714	8.6	-	-	.05	.5	
1945	12.7	13.5	12.7	8,109	189	2.3	-	-	8.83	62.3	
1943	12.5	13.5	12.5	9,246	2,928	24.1	-	-	.90	7.0	
1944	12.3	13.4	12.3	8,298	968	10.3	-	-	.44	3.2	
1939	12.1	13.3	12.1	8,247	445	5.1	-	-	1.76	35.0	
1931	12.0	13.0	12.0	8,810	159	1.8	-	-	.83	23.5	
1947	11.2	11.2	11.2	7,988	664	7.7	-	-	-	-	
1927	11.2	11.7	11.2	9,301	453	4.6	-	-	.59	7.6	
1928	11.2	12.2	11.2	8,854	447	4.8	-	-	.61	7.3	
1930	11.2	12.3	11.2	8,969	691	8.4	-	-	3.59	50.4	
1929	10.3	10.9	10.3	8,278	576	6.5	-	-	1.84	20.5	
1940	10.0	10.6	10.0	7,760	487	5.9	-	-	4.16	61.3	
1936	9.4	9.4	9.4	6,177	777	11.2	-	-	1.70	18.1	
1933	8.6	10.2	8.6	6,825	2,297	24.2	-	-	3.30	103.1	
1924	8.3	8.7	8.3	8,334	1,465	14.9	-	-	2.02	22.2	
1934	6.8	7.0	6.8	5,467	1,358	19.9	-	-	2.67	41.1	

1/ Based on prices received by farmers.

1/ Based on prices received by farmers.

Table 4. United States: Total Annual Meat Production and Civilian Consumption
1941-47 and Forecast 1948-49

Item	Unit	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Indicated : 1948	Projected : 1949 1/
Production 2/										
Beef	Bil. lbs.	8.1	8.8	8.6	9.1	10.3	9.4	10.4	9.3	9.0
Veal	"	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4
Lamb & Mutton	"	.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	.8	.7	.7
Pork	"	9.5	10.9	13.6	13.3	10.7	11.2	10.6	9.8	10.6
Total Meat Production	"	19.6	21.9	24.5	25.2	23.7	23.0	23.4	21.3	21.7
Total Meat Consumption 3/	"	20.0	22.1	24.6	25.7	23.6	23.2	23.9	21.8	21.8
Non-civilian uses 4/	"	1.1	3.6	5.7	5.9	4.9	1.8	1.7	.6	.7
Civilian consumption	"	18.9	18.5	18.9	19.8	18.7	21.4	22.2	21.2	21.1
Civilian population	Millions	132.6	132.3	129.6	129.2	129.8	139.3	143.5	146.2	147.4
Civilian per capita consumption	Lbs.	143	140	146	153	144	154	155	145	143

1/ Based on attainment of 1949 spring pig goal.

2/ Excludes meat produced under Federal inspection in Hawaii and Virgin Islands.

3/ Accounts for net changes in stocks, imports and non-civilian uses.

4/ Includes net USDA purchases, net armed forces and other war agencies, commercial exports and shipments.

Table 5. HOGS: Sows to Farrow Spring (Dec. 1-June 1)
1949 State Goals

State	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Me.	4	4	6	6	5	70	100	67
N. H.	1	1	2	2	2	90	100	50
Vt.	3	3	4	3	2	77	100	100
Mass.	11	11	13	13	12	100	100	85
R. I.	1	1	1	1	1	101	100	100
Conn.	5	5	4	4	2	107	100	125
N. Y.	33	31	32	31	23	98	106	106
N. J.	14	13	14	14	11	119	108	100
Pa.	85	79	81	77	63	115	108	110
Ohio	425	381	428	459	392	122	112	93
Ind.	650	513	570	595	522	139	127	109
Ill.	1,000	836	909	912	766	112	120	110
Mich.	125	98	110	139	120	113	128	90
Wis.	370	296	296	362	320	124	125	102
Minn.	775	611	694	821	720	118	127	94
Iowa	1,963	1,707	1,962	2,028	1,704	101	115	97
Mo.	570	457	481	531	412	135	125	107
N. Dak.	140	103	108	188	122	120	136	74
S. Dak.	400	320	364	350	265	163	125	114
Nebr.	530	424	487	494	325	112	125	107
Kans.	180	146	170	262	158	99	123	69
Del.	4	4	3	4	3	112	100	100
Md.	32	30	30	28	22	106	107	114
Va.	95	88	84	90	67	149	108	106
W. Va.	28	25	24	24	19	113	112	117
N. C.	145	130	134	136	106	141	112	107
S. C.	97	90	93	78	57	115	108	124
Ga.	210	187	197	215	184	109	112	98
Fla.	110	102	105	90	82	106	108	122
Ky.	195	166	155	190	125	123	117	103
Tenn.	155	134	133	185	126	106	116	84
Ala.	130	109	115	127	99	120	119	102
Miss.	115	106	103	115	89	92	108	100
Ark.	115	106	109	148	111	84	108	78
La.	110	108	112	116	116	76	102	95
Okla.	110	92	90	163	109	87	120	67
Tex.	230	199	186	270	184	85	116	85
Mont.	35	27	25	41	27	184	130	85
Idaho	36	30	27	73	58	97	120	49
Wyo.	15	13	12	15	10	114	115	100
Colo.	52	43	37	67	37	104	121	78
N. Mex.	12	11	9	13	9	77	109	92
Ariz.	4	3	3	7	6	263	133	57
Utah	16	16	12	20	13	106	100	80
Nev.	4	4	3	4	3	95	100	100
Wash.	25	21	20	44	32	87	119	57
Oreg.	35	27	25	43	35	141	130	81
Calif.	90	77	70	86	84	151	117	105
U.S.	1,900	7,988	8,652	9,684	7,760	114	119	98

1/ Revised from 9,677 due to recommendations received from certain states.
Preceding pages of report based on unrevised total.

Prepared July 15, 1948

BEEF CATTLE GOAL - 1948-49

Summary: The goal year for beef cattle is now changed from a calendar year to a year beginning with July and ending the following June 30. Goals established on this new schedule can be made available to producers in July instead of in the late fall as heretofore, and will have a more direct relation to the main period of range cattle marketings, the culling of herds, and the time when most cattle are placed on feed.

The breeding herd goal for number of beef cows on hand January 1, 1949 is a total of at least 15.5 million head, or nearly as many as were on hand at the beginning of 1948. Better management, improved feeding practices, and thorough culling will put the cattle industry in better position to supply the meat requirements of the increasing population. Since adjustments in beef cow numbers will be governed largely by conditions confronting individual producers, no specific number goals by States are suggested.

Slaughter of 32 million cattle and calves is recommended as the 1948-49 slaughter goal. This slaughter would be in line with the goal recommended for the beef breeding herd next January 1, the need for meat during the period, and the amount of cattle feeding expected during the coming season.

This slaughter would result in a further small decrease in the number of cattle on farms. But it would provide a larger quantity of beef and veal in 1948-49 than could be made available if cattle numbers were maintained at present levels or increased. The larger quantity will be needed because pork production will be less than in the previous year and the output of pork cannot be increased materially until near the end of 1949 when 1949 spring pigs will be ready to start moving to market. The demand for meat is expected to continue strong during the year ahead and population is continuing to increase at a high rate.

On the basis of present indications for a record large supply of feed grains per animal unit, it is expected that more cattle will be fed during the 1948-49 feeding season than were fed a year earlier and that they will be fed longer and to heavier weights with more finish. It is assumed that the number on feed for market January 1, 1949 will be at least 4 million head, which is 5 percent more than the 3.8 million on feed for market a year earlier. Some increase in beef output from grain fed cattle is needed to augment the meat supply, particularly during the first three quarters of 1949.

The number of cattle available for feeding is smaller than during the past several years and prices of feeder cattle are now the highest on record. Prices of fat cattle also are at record levels. Because of this, there is less probability of further advances during the coming feeding period which would provide feeding margins equal to those of recent years when prices were rising. The risks in cattle feeding in 1948-49, therefore, may be somewhat greater than in the last several years. Each feeder will need to decide in the light of his own conditions and prospects whether it is probable that he can feed cattle profitably this year. By maintaining their feeding operations on a flexible basis, cattle feeders will be in position to adjust their cattle marketings to the varying conditions that may prevail during the fed cattle marketing season.

Change in Cattle Goal Year: This year for the first time, the beef cattle goal is being established on the basis of the year beginning July 1. The goals recommended, therefore, apply to the period July 1948 through June 1949. Previous cattle goals were on a calendar year basis. The new goal year is more nearly typical of a cattle production and feeding year. During the period July through December, most cattlemen, both in the range country and in the feeding areas, make their major decisions regarding their production and marketing plans. In this period occurs the bulk of the sales and purchases of feeder stock, the culling of herds, the buying of new breeding stock, and the starting of most new feeding operations. In having the goal year for cattle begin July 1, it is expected that the goal will be made available in time to assist cattle producers in making decisions regarding their breeding herds, and to provide background information for cattle feeders in determining the number and kind of cattle they place on feed and their plans for marketing these cattle.

when finished.

Breeding Herd Goal: The goal for beef cows on farms and ranches is a total of not less than 15.5 million head on January 1, 1949. The number of such cows reached an all time high of nearly 16.5 million January 1, 1947, and then dropped to 16 million the first of this year. With the cattle slaughter now expected during 1948, it seems probable that another small reduction in numbers will occur. A thriving and sound beef industry depends upon the maintenance of a healthy, well balanced breeding herd, and it is recommended that beef cow numbers be maintained at not less than 15.5 million head so that the industry can readily expand to utilize the feed supplies expected during the coming years, and supply the demand for meat from our increasing population.

With the decline in numbers in prospect this year, it is highly desirable that special attention be given to maintaining and improving the productivity of breeding herds. Prices of all grades of cows have been at record levels, hence, cattlemen have an opportunity to dispose of culled cows at an exceptionally high price. When such cattle are sold, it is recommended that they be replaced with younger animals of high quality and more desirable type.

Numbers of all cattle and calves on farms and ranches at the beginning of 1948 were estimated at 78.6 million head. This is 7 million less than the all-time peak reached 3 years earlier, and is about the same as the total of 6 years ago, shortly after the United States entered the war.

After the droughts in the mid-thirties, cattle numbers reached a low of 65 million head at the beginning of 1938, then increased during the next seven years as a result of favorable grazing and feed conditions throughout most of the country. In those seven years, dairy cattle increased nearly 6 million head, or nearly 16 percent, and beef cattle more than 14 million head, or 47 percent. After the high point in numbers was reached, the number of dairy cattle was reduced by nearly 4 million head, and that of beef cattle by 3.5 million. These reductions represent 70 percent of the previous increase in dairy cattle and 25 percent of that in beef cattle. Most of the reduction in beef cattle since the end of 1944 has been in steers and in calves and other young stock. The proportion of cows in the beef cattle herd at the beginning of 1948 was the largest of record. The beef cattle industry, therefore, is still in position to produce a large number of calves.

Cattle Slaughter Goal: A slaughter goal of 32 million cattle and calves is recommended for the year beginning July 1, 1948. This number would be about 7 percent smaller than the number of cattle and calves slaughtered in each of the two preceding 12-month periods, when the total was about 34.6 million.

Slaughter of cattle and calves through the last half of 1948, at the recommended rate, will further reduce the number of cattle and calves on farms and ranches by January 1, 1949 to about 76.5 million, or about 2 million below the number on hand a year earlier. Until late 1949, when it is expected that increased pork supplies will become available to fill a larger proportion of the continued strong demand for meat, reducing the slaughter of cattle and calves much below a yearly level of 32 million head would unduly reduce meat supplies in relation to demand. The proposed slaughter goal is believed to be in line with the needs for meat, the expected level of cattle feeding, and the breeding herd goal for next January 1.

Slaughter of cattle during the first half of 1948 apparently totaled about 9.7 million head, or about 10 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1947. Slaughter of calves was reduced somewhat less and is expected to total about 6.2 million, or about 5 percent less than in 1947.

Because of the early movement of 1947 fall pigs to market, the probability of delayed marketing of the 1948 spring pig crop, and the very small number of grain-fed cattle now available for market, meat output during the four months July-October 1948 will be considerably smaller than a year earlier. Some of the decrease in output will be offset by fairly large stocks of meat now in storage which will move into consumption before the new storage season begins. A decrease in cattle slaughter in the last half of 1948 of more than 10 percent from a year earlier would unduly accentuate the reduction in total meat supply in relation to existing demand; but to hold the decrease in slaughter to a minimum of 10 percent will necessitate slaughtering about as many cattle off grass as in the previous year, and this would reduce the available supply of cattle for feeding in 1948-49.

The number of calves slaughtered during July through December is expected to be about 4 percent less than the calf slaughter in the corresponding part of 1947. This reduction would be about in line with the decrease in the number of cows on farms and in the calf crop expected this year. If the number of beef calves marketed for slaughter is held to a minimum it will facilitate the rebuilding of herds more quickly.

The slaughter of cattle and calves in the first half of 1948 was somewhat in excess of the rate of 32 million per year recommended last fall as the slaughter goal for 1948. This slaughter in the first half of the year plus that which now appears desirable for the last half will total about 33 million head, or about 3 million less than the record slaughter in 1947.

If the number of cattle on feed for market on January 1, 1949 is increased to 4 million or more, the number of cattle slaughtered during the first half of 1949 probably would be not more than 5 percent below the number slaughtered during the first half of 1948. A reduction in slaughter of calves during that period of not more than 5 percent would be in line with the prospective reduction in number of cows on farms by the end of this year.

Cattle Feeding: As in previous years, no goal is recommended for the number of cattle to be fed for market. Individual situations vary so greatly between cattle feeders that it is necessary for each feeder to decide on the basis of his own situation whether he should feed cattle in any particular year. Availability of feeder cattle at attractive prices, local supplies of grains, the kinds and amount of roughage available, and other individual factors have a very important bearing on these decisions.

The number of feeder cattle available this year is smaller than during the past few years. Prices of feeder cattle have reached record levels. Some seasonal decline can be expected this fall but probably not as much as usual. The decline will be lessened to some extent because of the reduced supply of feeder cattle available, the smaller supply of cattle for slaughter, and the greater demand for cattle for feeding which is expected to result if the prospective large supply of feed grains materializes.

Prices of grain-fed cattle also have been at record high levels and may continue to advance until early fall in line with the usual seasonal pattern. These high prices reflect the strong demand for beef and the reduction in number of cattle on feed for market. The number on feed at the beginning of 1948 was 12 percent less than a year earlier. The decrease in the Corn Belt States of 19 percent was much greater than in the rest of the country. Shipments of cattle for feeding and grazing in the first half of this year were far below the record shipments of last year, and were the smallest since 1941. On April 1, the number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt was down 25 percent from a year earlier - the decrease amounting to nearly a half million head. This large reduction in number of cattle on feed, together with the small number of calves bought for feeding last fall, indicates a relatively small supply of fed cattle for slaughter this summer and fall.

In recent years, profits from cattle feeding, despite increasing feed costs, have been much greater than normal because of the rising trend in cattle prices which increased the feeders' margin. Continuation of the rise in cattle prices after 1948 is highly uncertain, since it will depend on a further increase in consumer incomes sufficient to offset the effects of larger supplies of fed cattle expected to be available if feed supplies become more plentiful. Lower feeding costs, however, will enable feeders to operate on a smaller margin than in the past two years when costs were high in relation to prices of fed cattle.

On the basis of present indications for a large supply of feed grains per animal unit, it is expected that feed grain prices will be considerably lower and that the number of cattle fed will be somewhat larger than in the previous year. It is assumed now that the number on feed for market January 1, 1949 will be not less than 4 million head, which is 5 percent more than the 3.8 million on feed a year earlier. If larger than normal feed crops are produced, the number of cattle on feed January 1 may be somewhat greater. Crop production will be fairly well determined by early September before most of the feeder cattle are purchased.

In planning their feeding operations during the coming year, cattle feeders will need to be governed by the price of feeder cattle, the cost of feed, and the prospective demand for fed cattle. The slight reduction in the 1948 spring pig crop, and the reported intentions for the 1948 fall pig crop, indicate little change from a year earlier in pork supplies from January through September 1949 when cattle put on feed this fall will be marketed for slaughter. The limited pork supply in prospect during that period, combined with the probability of a continued high level of demand for meat, indicates a need for some increase in cattle feeding this fall and winter. Other limited possibilities of increasing meat supplies in the January-September period of 1949 are heavier feeding of 1948 spring and fall pigs which will be marketed at that time, and further increasing 1948 fall pig production by holding back more bred sows and gilts this summer. No marked increase in meat supplies is possible during 1949 until near the end of that year when grass cattle are marketed and 1949 spring pigs will begin moving to market in volume. Unless drought should force liquidation of cattle from the range areas in the summer and fall of 1949, the number of grass cattle marketed at that time probably will be less than the number marketed this year and be the smallest for five years or more.

A substantial increase in pork supplies in the late fall of 1949 is likely to occur unless corn yields in 1948 are considerably below normal. A large corn crop in 1949 would encourage feeding 1949 spring pigs to heavy weights, and this would delay much of the increase in pork supplies for consumption until close to the beginning of 1950. It appears, therefore, that during the last half of 1949, when long-fed cattle and calves placed on grain feed this fall will be sold for slaughter, the competing meat supplies will not be large in relation to the demand for meat.

Last year the proportion of the total calf crop sold for slaughter was the largest of record - nearly 39 percent, compared with about 35 percent in 1946 and around 30 percent in the early years of the war. Apparently a larger than usual proportion of the beef calves went for slaughter, because the proportion of the total calf crop which was carried over into 1948 was the smallest since 1926. Assuming a percentage calf crop in 1948 equal to that of 1947, and a calf slaughter as large as now indicated, the calf supply remaining for feeder stock may be about equal to that of last year when it was the smallest since the fall of 1940.

Because of foot and mouth disease in Mexico, the importation of Mexican cattle into this country is prohibited and this is causing cattlemen and packers in Texas and the southwest to look to other sources for supplies of cattle for grazing and slaughter. For the first time, large numbers of Florida cattle are being shipped west to stock southwestern pastures.

Meat Supply: Meat output in 1948 will be about 10 percent smaller than the large output in 1947 but about 30 percent greater than the 1935-39 average. All four types of meat will be in smaller supply than in 1947. Meat consumption probably will be reduced less than production because of a small increase in imports, a net reduction in stocks, and possibly smaller military use. The per capita consumption rate of about 145 pounds indicated for 1948 would be about 6 percent less than the 155-pound average for 1947, which was the highest in the last 25 years, but would be around 15 percent greater than the 1935-39 average of 126 pounds. The present civilian population is about 16 million greater than in the prewar period.

Meat consumption per capita in the first half of 1948 has been 5 to 10 percent less than a year earlier, and for the remainder of the year is expected to be about 10 percent below the previous year. The decrease in per capita meat supplies thus far this year has been due mostly to a reduction in cattle slaughter, resulting mainly from the smaller number of cattle fed on grain for market during the winter and spring. The effects of the drought on the corn crop last year and, to a lesser extent, the smaller number of cattle available for feeding contributed to the reduction in cattle feeding. These various factors will continue to affect the meat supply through the third quarter when the seasonal low point in hog slaughter will also occur. In the fourth quarter, the effects of the reduction in the spring pig crop and probable delayed marketings of hogs, if ample feed is available, will be reflected in the supply.

During the first half of 1949 total meat supplies probably will be little different from a year earlier. During the summer and early fall of 1949 the slaughter of fed cattle packing sows probably will be increased over the corresponding period of 1948, but the larger supply of meat from these sources may be more than offset by a reduction in the slaughter of cattle marketed off grass. No large increase in meat supplies is in sight until near the end of 1949, and the increase then will depend on the size of the 1949 spring pig crop.

Demand: Demand for meat will continue strong while the level of economic activity remains high. Meat appears to be in a favorable position during periods when consumers have high incomes. No downturn in incomes or economic activity which would materially reduce the demand for meat is now in sight. With somewhat smaller supplies of meat available for the next year, it appears that prices of meat animals are likely to be well maintained. Increased marketings of fed cattle during the spring and summer of 1949, however, could result in somewhat lower prices for the better grades of cattle unless there is a further increase in consumer incomes.

Beef and lamb prices reached new record levels in May and June this year, surpassing the record peaks established last January. Pork prices, however, were still below those of last fall and early winter. The new record level of beef and lamb prices has developed before the seasonal decline in meat supplies expected to occur this summer.

In estimating future requirements for beef and the demand which will exist for their production, cattlemen should carefully consider the increase in population which has occurred in the last decade and the increase which is expected in the years ahead.

During the 1930's the United States population increase averaged less than one million persons per year and the increase for the 10 year period was only about 8 million persons. From 1939 through 1948 the total increase is estimated at 17 million persons, or about 13 percent. Furthermore, the annual increase expected during the next few years is at the rate of about 2 million per year, - or more than twice the prewar rate. Therefore, the cattle industry, in planning its future operations, should not think of prewar herds as normal or of prewar demand as a level to which we may return.

Long-Time Production Capacity: Stockmen in making plans for the years ahead need to consider how much meat this country can produce with its feed and grazing resources. During the last 30 years, cattle numbers have tended to increase at about the same rate as horse and mule numbers have declined, so that the total number of grazing animals has held within a fairly narrow range. Expressed in units equivalent to one milk cow, the yearly totals during those 30 years have fluctuated between 67 and 80 million, and have averaged about 73 million. The total this year is 70 million, which is 4 percent less than the long-time average and 12 percent below the last recent peak reached in 1944. Further decreases in grazing animals are to be expected during the next few years because of a continued decline in horse and mule numbers and probably some further moderate decrease in cattle numbers.

The number of grazing animals maintained in this country during the last three decades indicates that with the geographical distribution of that period, the grazing resources have a capacity of about 80 million animal grazing units during years of fairly favorable weather, but in years of severe drought it is probably about 70 million. In some of the southern States the grazing capacity is probably in excess of the maximum number of animals maintained there in past years. If these States should make full use of their resources, the maximum capacity of the entire country is probably near 85 million grazing units during years of favorable weather.

Allowing for the probable continued decline in horses and mules during the next decade and some increase in sheep, the grazing resources if fully used 10 years hence, could probably maintain a January 1 inventory of about 95 million cattle and calves, or about 10 million more than the all-time peak reached at the end of 1944 and more than 20 percent greater than present numbers. This number of cattle would permit a yearly slaughter of about 36 million cattle and calves and hold numbers about constant from year to year, assuming there were little or no imports or exports of live cattle. This level of slaughter is the same as the record slaughter of last year.

In the range States where cattle production is largely dependent upon grass and wild hay, the feed supply holds fairly constant in volume as long as drought does not occur. The majority of the beef breeding cattle, which are the foundation of the beef cattle industry, are maintained in that area. In the Corn Belt States and the grazing area to the east and south, the feed supply for beef cattle is composed to a considerably greater extent of grains, fodder, silage, and tame hay. It is in this area, where dairying is an important competitive enterprise, that a surplus of feed grains is expected to be produced this year and in the years following if weather conditions are average or better. Dairy cattle numbers have been substantially reduced in recent years, and hog production is down near prewar levels. With smaller numbers of all livestock on farms, a normal feed crop will result in an oversupply of feed in relation to the livestock to be fed. The supply of feed concentrates per grain-consuming animal unit for the feeding year beginning with October 1948 is estimated at 1.03 tons. This compares with an indicated supply of .89 for the current feeding year and will be the highest of record for all recent years. Larger than average yields of corn and other grain-feed crops this summer will mean additional supplies of feed available at even lower prices.

Miscellaneous Factors: There are no price support programs established or anticipated for cattle during the coming year. Market facilities, labor supply, and transportation facilities are not expected to be limiting factors in reaching the cattle goal for 1948-49.

CATTLE AND CALVES: Balance Sheet, 1944-47, 1948 Indicated, 1949 Assumed
Number on Farms Jan. 1, Imports, Calf Crop, and Slaughter with Comparisons

Item	: : 1944 :	: : 1945 :	: : 1946 :	: : 1947 :	: : 1948 <u>1/</u> :	: : 1949 <u>2/</u> :
	-million head-					
Cattle on feed	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.3	3.8	4.0
Milk animals on farms Jan. 1						
Cows 2 years old and over	27.7	27.8	26.7	26.1	25.2	24.7
Heifers 1-2 years	6.4	6.3	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.5
Heifer calves	7.2	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.3
Total milk stock	41.3	40.8	39.1	38.5	37.4	36.5
Other cattle on farms Jan. 1						
Cows 2 years old and over	15.5	16.5	16.3	16.5	16.0	15.5
Heifers 1-2 years	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.5
Steers 1 year and over	7.8	8.3	7.7	7.2	6.8	6.7
Bulls 1 year and over	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7
Other calves	13.8	12.9	12.6	12.6	12.0	11.6
Total other cattle (beef)	44.1	44.7	43.3	42.7	41.2	40.0
Total all cows	43.2	44.2	43.0	42.6	41.2	40.2
Grand total all cattle	85.3	85.6	82.4	81.2	78.6	76.5
Percentage calf crop	85.7	79.5	80.3	83.0	82.0	82.0
Calf crop	37.0	35.2	34.5	35.3	34.3	33.1
Imports of cattle & calves	.3	.5	.5	.1	.1	.1
Into sight	37.3	35.7	35.0	35.4	34.4	33.2
Total supply cattle and calves	122.7	121.2	117.4	116.6	113.0	109.7
Disappearance						
Slaughter						
Cattle-Federally inspected	14.0	14.5	11.4	15.5	13.4	
Non-inspected	5.9	7.2	8.4	6.9	6.7	
Total	19.8	21.7	19.8	22.4	20.1	
Calves-Federally inspected	7.8	7.0	5.8	7.9	7.5	
Non-inspected	6.5	6.6	6.3	5.8	5.6	
Total	14.2	13.6	12.2	13.7	13.1	
Total slaughter	34.1	35.3	32.0	36.1	33.2	
Other disappearance	3.0	3.5	4.4	1.9	3.2	
Total disappearance	37.1	38.8	36.4	38.0	36.4	
Number end of year	85.6	82.4	81.2	78.6	76.5	
Change from previous year	-0.3	-3.2	-1.2	-2.6	-2.1	

NOTE: Because of rounding, addition of items does not always agree with the totals shown.

1/ Preliminary indications.

2/ Based on assumption of slaughter in 1949 which would halt decline in cattle numbers.

Source: Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Estimate of Fiscal Year Cattle and Calf Slaughter
1944-45 through 1948-49

Item	: 1944-45	: 1945-46	: 1946-47	: Indicated : 1947-48	: Goal : 1948-49
-million head-					
Cattle, Total Slaughter					
July-December	10.9	11.6	10.8	11.6	10.4
January-June	10.1	9.1	10.8	9.7	9.2
Fiscal year total	21.0	20.7	21.6	21.3	19.6
Calves, Total Slaughter					
July-December	8.3	7.3	6.5	7.2	6.9
January-June	6.3	5.7	6.5	6.2	5.8
Fiscal year total	14.6	13.0	13.0	13.4	12.7
Cattle & Calves, Fiscal Year					
Federally inspected	22.1	19.1	21.1	22.1	20.4
Non-inspected	13.5	14.6	13.5	12.6	11.9
Total	35.6	33.7	34.6	34.7	32.3
-Pounds-					
Cattle, av. dressed wt.	460	477	467	464	464
Calves, av. dressed wt.	123	120	119	115	114
-billion pounds-					
Beef production	9.6	9.9	10.1	9.9	9.1
Veal production	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4
Total beef and veal production	10.4	11.4	11.7	11.4	10.5

Feed Concentrate Supply, Feeder Cattle Supply, and Cattle
Slaughter, January to June, 1937-48 and Projected for 1948-49

Item	Unit	1937-41	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47 1/2	Indicated 1947-48	Projected 1948-49
Supply of feed concentrates per grain-consuming animal unit fed annually, Oct.-Sept.	Tons	.89	.91	.93	.99	.89	1.03
Feeder-type cattle on farms Jan. 1	Mil.	5.5	8.3	7.7	7.2	6.8	6.5
Steers 1 yr. and over	"	3.3	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.5
Heifers 1-2 yrs. not kept for milk	"	10.7	12.9	12.6	12.6	12.0	11.8
Calves not kept for milk	"	19.5	26.3	25.2	24.5	23.4	22.8
Cattle on feed, Jan. 1	"	3.4	4.4	4.2	4.3	3.8	4.0
Slaughter & Meat Production, Jan.-June							
Steers slaughtered under Federal Inspection	Mil.	2.3	3.5	2.6	3.8	3.2	3.0
Total cattle slaughtered 2/	"	-	10.1	9.1	10.8	9.7	9.2
Average dressed weight of cattle slaughtered	Lbs.	-	486	496	482	478	485
Total Beef Production	Bil. Lbs.	-	4.9	4.5	5.2	4.6	4.5

1/ Preliminary

2/ Federally Inspected and other.

Source: Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Production & Marketing Administration

Meat Production and Distribution, Fiscal Year 1944-45 - 1948-49
(Carcass weight equivalent)

Item	Unit	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	Assumed 1948-49
<u>Production 1/</u>						
Beef	Bil. Lbs.	9.6	9.9	10.1	9.8	9.1
Veal	"	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
Lamb & Mutton	"	1.1	1.0	.8	.8	.7
Pork	"	11.3	11.2	10.5	10.4	9.8
Total Meat Production	"	23.8	23.7	23.0	22.5	21.0
<u>Total Meat Consumption 2/</u>						
Non-civilian uses 3/	"	24.3	24.1	22.9	22.4	21.4
Civilian consumption	"	5.8	3.1	1.0	.7	.7
Civilian Population	Million	18.5	21.0	21.9	21.7	20.7
Civilian per capita consumption	Lbs.	129.4	135.0	141.5	144.8	146.7
		143	156	155	150	141

1/ Excludes meat produced under Federal inspection in Hawaii and Virgin Islands.
2/ Accounts for net changes in stocks, imports and non-civilian uses.
3/ Includes net USDA purchases, net armed forces and other war agencies, commercial exports and shipments.

Source: Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Production and Marketing Administration

Prepared November 15, 1948

STOCK SHEEP AND LAMBS

The 1949 goal for stock sheep and lambs is to increase numbers on farms and ranches during 1949 as much as conditions permit. The goal established last year for numbers at the end of 1948 was 30.5 million, but indications in early November are that the total will not exceed 29 million. Since it will require several years for sheepmen to expand sheep production to the level that is in the best interests of the nation's economy, action should be taken in 1949 to bring about a substantial increase in breeding stock in the years immediately ahead. An increase in stock sheep to at least 30.5 million head by the end of 1949 would be desirable.

The outlook for the sheep industry has improved in 1948. Wool prices have advanced, favorable long-range wool legislation has been enacted, and world stocks of wool have been reduced sharply.

Sheep numbers in 1949 will be unusually small in relation to numbers of other livestock, the grazing resources available, and the nation's requirements for lamb and wool. From the point of view of the future outlook for sheep and wool, an increase in numbers and production in the next few years would be desirable.

Provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1948, scheduled to become effective in 1950, provide that the price of wool shall be supported at such level from 60 to 90 percent of parity as the Secretary of Agriculture may consider necessary to encourage an annual production of about 360 million pounds of shorn wool. This level of production would require an increase of more than 50 percent in the number of stock sheep and lambs which would bring numbers to about 45 million as compared with about 29 million expected to be on hand January 1, 1949. The Act also provides a new method of computing parity prices which will raise parity for wool somewhat in relation to most other farm commodities.

Halting the downtrend in sheep numbers and obtaining any increase in numbers will require a sharp reduction in marketings of sheep and lambs in 1949 and a continued low level of marketings in the years immediately following. With a reduction in marketings the supply of lamb and mutton would be a much smaller proportion of the total meat supply than for many years. As a result prices of lambs probably would be maintained better than prices of other meat animals, particularly since supplies of pork are expected to increase.

Considering the small number of sheep in the country in relation to population and to the resources available for raising sheep, and the developments in prospect in the years following 1949, it appears advantageous for those sheepmen who are in a position to do so to increase their ewe flocks. Others can benefit by at least bringing the average age of their flocks into better balance.

Management Operations: During the last six years factors encouraging liquidation have predominated and sheep numbers have been reduced each year. Those factors have been primarily the low returns received from sheep raising in relation to those obtainable from competitive uses of production resources, difficulties in obtaining dependable, competent herders in the western range country, losses resulting from dogs and predatory animals, and feed shortages in some areas. The major cause for the reduction in numbers has varied in individual instances and from area to area. The reduction in California, Texas, and to some extent Wyoming this year has resulted largely from drought conditions. In some other areas competition from alternative enterprises has been the primary reason for the reduction in numbers. In many individual cases, and in some areas generally, labor difficulties have been largely responsible for the reduction or discontinuance of sheep operations.

Marketings of sheep and lambs next year will be down from 1948 because reduced numbers of breeding stock on hand at the beginning of the year are expected to result in a smaller lamb crop. However, a further cut in marketings of ewe

lambs and older ewes for slaughter will be required to halt the decline in sheep numbers next year. An increase in numbers by the end of 1949 will necessitate reducing the sale of sheep and lambs still further during the year. This would further reduce the current supplies of lamb and mutton for consumption and tend to maintain or improve lamb prices.

If sheep and lamb numbers at the end of 1949 reach about 30.5 million, the industry would still be nearly 15 million head short of the number required to produce 360 million pounds of shorn wool. The Agricultural Act of 1948 directs the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage the yearly production of this quantity of shorn wool by wool price support action. This legislation strengthens the position of the sheep industry and provides incentive for long-range sheep production plans.

The profitableness of most sheep operations depends to a large extent on the percentage lamb crop produced. Sheepmen will benefit by retaining only the most productive ewes in their flocks. Culling will increase productivity both for meat and for wool. Because of the cost involved in replacing old ewes with younger breeding stock, some sheepmen may not find it possible to replace their old ewes and to increase numbers at the same time, but even so it will be advantageous to adjust the age of the flock in those instances where the number of old ewes is unusually large.

Outlook for Wool: During the past year prices of the finer grades of wool advanced sharply and were substantially above support prices that have been in effect for such wools since 1943. In the past few years world consumption of the finer grades of wool has far exceeded production, and prices of these grades have advanced considerably. As a result, stocks of fine wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation have been disposed of and little fine wool was purchased under the price support program from 1948 production. It is expected that the relatively strong demand for fine wools will continue and that the prices of most fine and medium wools will hold above support levels. While market prices of the lower grades and inferior wools have strengthened somewhat, they are still mostly below support prices and much of the 1948 production of such wools will be bought by the Commodity Credit Corporation. However, with the declining proportion of fine wools available for consumption, requirements will have to be filled with more of the medium wools which may strengthen prices of these wools in the future.

Outlook for Lamb and Mutton: During the coming years the prices of live lambs are likely to be well maintained in comparison with the prices of other meat animals. With an increase in meat supplies in prospect as a result of larger pork production, meat prices in general may be expected to decline. With reduced marketings of lambs, however, prices of lamb are expected to be maintained better than those of most other meats. Prices of lamb are likely to improve in relation to beef if more cattle are fattened on grain, thereby increasing the supplies of higher grade beef. Most of the lamb and mutton produced in this country is consumed in certain urban areas where there is a special preference for this meat.

Feed Supplies and Agricultural Conservation: In many areas present range grazing resources are now being utilized less fully than they have been during most of the last 30 years. Much of these resources can be utilized best by sheep. The possibility of increasing sheep numbers is greatest in the western range area. As farmers reduce their acreages of cultivated crops, they may find a need for increasing sheep numbers to utilize their additional pasture and forage, particularly in some of the wheat producing areas. There is a possibility also for an expansion in sheep numbers in the farm flock areas so as to utilize more fully the pasture now available and which will become available when crop acreage is reduced.

Feed supplies for supplemental feeding of sheep and lambs will be plentiful in 1949 at prices considerably lower than in the past year. Feed concentrate supplies are at a record level per unit of livestock and in most sections the roughage supply is more than adequate to care for the livestock on farms.

Competitive Enterprises Have Been More Profitable: Returns from sheep raising have been low in relation to those obtained from other uses of agricultural resources. Prices of wool have not advanced as much as prices of other farm products, and prices of dressed lamb have been low in comparison with other meats despite the continuous decline in the supply of lamb in relation to other meats during recent years. Particularly outstanding has been the change in the relationship of cattle and beef prices to those for live and dressed lambs. During most of the 20-year period 1921-40, prices of live and dressed lambs were more favorable in relation to prices of cattle and beef than they have been during and since the war. During that earlier period the wholesale price of Good grade carcass lamb in New York averaged 28 percent higher than the wholesale price of Good grade carcass beef. In the five-year period 1943-47, the lamb price averaged only 12 percent higher than the beef price, and in the first 9 months of 1948 the lamb price averaged no higher than the beef price. This change in relationship between lamb and beef prices becomes all the more significant when compared with the relative changes in the supply of the two kinds of meat. The supply of beef in 1948, for example, is about 38 percent greater than the 1921-40 average whereas the supply of lamb is slightly smaller than the 20-year average.

These changes in price and supply relationships indicate that the demand for beef has increased greatly in relation to that for lamb. One of the reasons for this may be that a larger proportion of the lamb supply is ordinarily consumed by white-collar workers and others whose incomes have not increased as much as the average.

Comparisons of supply and price relationships show also that the demand for lamb has weakened in relation to veal but to a much lesser extent than in relation to beef. Furthermore, comparisons of prices of live lambs and beef steers at Chicago show that steer prices have been higher in relation to lamb prices during recent years than in the years 1921-40. Live steer prices have risen further in relation to prices of live lambs than have dressed beef prices in relation to prices of dressed lamb. The greater change in live prices indicates that wool prices have also been partly responsible for the failure of lamb prices to rise as much as cattle prices. Table 1 summarizes the changes in prices of dressed carcasses and live animals and the change in supplies of beef, veal, and lamb moving into domestic civilian consumption.

Labor and Facilities: One of the most difficult problems facing the western range sheep industry is the shortage of competent herders. This is expected to be an important factor affecting the trend in stock sheep numbers during 1949. No major relief is in sight for operators who have to employ hired labor to care for their sheep. In some areas slight improvement in the availability of labor already may have been experienced and some further improvement may occur during 1949, but it probably will still be difficult to obtain satisfactory experienced herders for sheep on the western ranges. Although supplies and other facilities used in sheep production probably will be adequate, the cost of these, except in the case of feeds, will continue high.

Price Support: For the first time, sheep raisers now have a long-range price support program for wool on which they can base their operations. The Agricultural Act of 1948 provides that wool prices be supported to producers at 42 cents per pound until 1950. Thereafter, the Secretary is directed to support wool prices at a level between 60 and 90 percent of parity which will encourage the production of 360 million pounds of shorn wool annually. In 1950 the parity price of wool will be on a new basis which will raise the parity price for wool in relation to parity for most other commodities. On October 15, 1948 the new basis would have resulted in a parity nearly 4 cents per pound higher than the existing parity of 43.7 cents per pound. The parity price for wool will vary in future years under the new provisions depending upon the changes in prices received by farmers for wool and other commodities, but the new parity is expected to continue more favorable to wool producers than the old parity price.

State or Regional Goals: No State or regional goals are recommended for 1949 because increases in stock sheep numbers following the six-year decline must be governed largely by conditions confronting individual producers.

Table 1. Comparison of Lamb with Beef and Veal; Live Animal Prices at Chicago; Wholesale Meat Prices at New York; Meat Consumption; 1921-40 av. 1943-47 av. and 9-month av. 1948

Item	:	Beef	:	Veal	:	Lamb	:	Lamb as Percent of
	:		:		:		:	
	:		:		:		:	Beef : Veal

New York Wholesale Meat Prices: 1/

(Dollars per 100 pounds)

(Percent)

1921-40 av.	15.97	16.76	20.43	128	122
1943-47 av.	27.11	25.01	30.34	112	121
1948 (9 Mo.)	51.53	44.87	51.34	100	114

U.S. Consumption: 2/

(Million pounds)

1921-40 av.	6,693	935	757	11	81
1943-47 av.	8,024	1,421	864	11	61
1948 forecast	9,247	1,460	723	8	50

Chicago Livestock Prices: 3/

(Dollars per 100 pounds)

1921-40 av.	9.59	9.96	11.02	115	111
1943-47 av.	18.32	17.40	17.07	93	92
1948 (9 Mo.)	31.38	28.42	24.85	79	87

1/ Steer carcass, good, 600-700 lb; veal carcass, good, 80-130 lb; lamb carcass, good, 40-45 lb., and nearest comparable weight and grade for earlier years.

2/ Civilian consumption only 1941-47.

3/ Beef - average price of beef steers sold out of first hands; veal - vealers, good and choice and comparable price prior to 1927; lamb - bulk of sales prices of average aged lambs.

TABLE 2. Stock Sheep and Lambs on Farms, January 1

Year	Western Sheep States, excluding Texas ^{1/}	Texas	All other States	United States
(Thousand head)				
1923	19,320	3,490	9,787	32,597
1931	27,252	6,749	13,719	47,720
1934	26,001	8,059	14,184	48,244
1942	24,112	10,332	14,902	49,346
1943	22,998	10,539	14,659	48,196
1944	21,060	10,117	13,093	44,270
1945	18,630	9,611	11,368	39,609
1946	16,440	9,130	10,029	35,599
1947	14,680	8,126	9,319	32,125
1948 ^{2/}	14,203	7,557	8,784	30,544
1949 ^{3/}	13,600	6,800	8,500	28,900

^{1/} 11 Western States and South Dakota.^{2/} Preliminary.^{3/} Forecast based on assumption that 33,300,000 sheep and lambs will be on farms and ranches at the end of 1948.

TABLE 3. Apparel Wool: Production, Imports and Consumption

Year	Domestic production	Imports for consumption ^{1/}	Mill consumption
(Million lbs. - grease basis)			
1935-39 av.	424	90	592
1940	434	223	641
1941	453	605	977
1942	455	794	1,077
1943	444	649	1,062
1944	412	548	1,009
1945	378	675	1,013
1946	342	812	1,051
1947 ^{1/}	310	439	981
1948 ^{2/}	290	400	975

^{1/} Actual weight. Excludes wool entered as an act of international courtesy during 1942 through 1945^{2/} Preliminary and partly forecast.

Table 4. Sheep and Lambs: Balance Sheet, 1942-47 and Projections for 1948-50;
Number on Farms January 1, Annual Slaughter and Lamb & Mutton Production with Related Data

		1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Indicated : 1948	Projected : 1949	Projected : 1/1950
Breeding flock										
Ewes 1 yr., or older, Jan. 1	Unit	37.4	37.3	34.0	31.3	27.7	25.0	23.8	22.5	
Percentage Lamb Crop		86.5	82.9	84.3	86.5	89.2	88.3	85.9	86.0	
Total supply										
Stock sheep & lambs on farms, Jan. 1	Mil. Head	49.3	48.2	44.3	39.6	35.6	32.1	30.5	28.9	30.5
Sheep and lambs on feed, Jan. 1	"	6.9	7.0	6.5	6.9	6.8	5.7	4.8	4.4	4.0
All sheep on farms, Jan. 1	"	56.2	55.2	50.8	46.5	42.4	37.8	35.3	33.3	34.5
Lamb crop	"	32.3	30.9	28.6	27.0	24.7	22.1	20.5	19.4	
Imports of sheep and lambs	"	0	0	.1	.1	0	0	0	0	
Total supply	"	88.5	86.1	79.5	73.6	67.1	59.9	55.8	52.7	
Disappearance										
Slaughter										
Federally Inspected	Mil. Head	21.6	23.4	21.9	21.2	19.9	16.7	15.1	11.7	
Non-inspected	"	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.4	2.9	2.1	2.1	1.5	
Total slaughter	"	25.6	27.1	25.4	24.6	22.8	18.8	17.2	13.2	
Other disappearance	"	7.7	8.2	7.6	6.6	6.5	5.8	5.3	5.0	
Total disappearance	"	33.3	35.3	33.0	31.2	29.3	24.6	22.5	18.2	
Number on farms end of year	Mil. Head	55.2	50.8	46.5	42.4	37.8	35.3	33.3	34.5	
Production										
Lamb & mutton, av. dressed weight	Lbs.	41	41	40	43	43	43	43	43	
Lamb & mutton production	Mil. Lbs.	1,042	1,104	1,024	1,054	970	802	738	619	

1/ Based on attainment of goal.

